

# Jordan Times

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## Israeli jets attack resistance bases

**SIDON (Agencies)** — Israeli warplanes bombed Palestinian and Lebanese resistance bases in two separate raids in South Lebanon Wednesday following a spate of attempted cross-border guerrilla forays, police said.

They said four jets fired six rockets in three sorties spaced over 20 minutes over a cluster of Palestinian bases east of Sidon, provincial capital of South Lebanon, at 7 p.m. (1600 GMT).

A two-storey command post used by three factions was demolished. At least five people were missing in the rubble and presumed killed, police said. At least three others were wounded,

they said.

Six Phantom F-4 fighter-bombers blasted bases of the Iranian-backed fundamentalist Hezbollah (Party of God), with eight rockets in a five-minute raid in the Bekaa Valley in southeast Lebanon at 7:15 (1615 GMT), police said.

"We have no immediate report of casualties from that raid and nothing about the extent of the damage," said a police spokesman.

spokesman said.

The strikes were the fifth and sixth air raids in Lebanon this year. By police count, six people were killed and 45 wounded in the four previous raids since Jan. 11.

The targeted bases east of Sidon belonged to the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine (PFLP), the Fatah-Revolutionary Council faction headed by Abu Nidal, and the Palestine Liberation Front, the police spokesman said.

He declined to confirm or deny the police report about casualties, saying only, "We suffered some."

Fighters cordoned off the targeted area and prevented photographers from taking pictures.

The raids were apparently in retaliation for attempts by commandos to cross Israel's self-declared "security zone."

AMMAN (J.T.) — Central Bank of Jordan (CBJ) Governor Mohammad Saeed Nabulsi has pledged dedicated and concerned efforts by himself and the CBJ staff to help the country overcome its present economic difficulties.

The pledge came in a cable Nabulsi sent Wednesday to His Majesty King Hussein in reply to a message of confidence and appreciation that he received from the King earlier this week, the Jordan News Agency, Petra, said.

"God willing, the Central Bank will do all it can to overcome the present difficult but

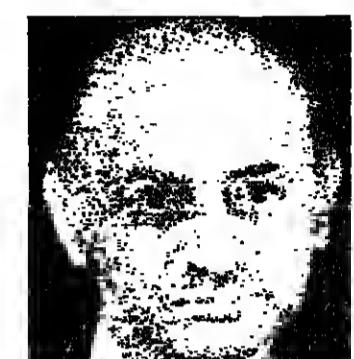
short and temporary stage and will contribute most effectively towards the on-going development process in the country," Nabulsi said in his cable.

"I received a message in which Your Majesty expressed confidence in the Central Bank of Jordan and its ability to bolster the country's economic and monetary situation, and my colleagues and myself hereby by express total commitment to the directives contained in the message and voice our sincerest feelings of affection and allegiance to Your Majesty," Nabulsi said.

"The Central Bank of Jordan will embark on a new course of action aimed at revitalising its activities and operating in light of Your Majesty's directives and within the framework of the law, with total commitment and responsibility, aiming to safeguard the country's higher interests," Nabulsi said.

In his message to Nabulsi, the King said that the CBJ was the most important and vital organisation in the Kingdom, entrusted with managing the fundamental structure of the national economy.

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Mohammad Saeed Al Nabulsi  
shoulder his new responsibility  
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## CBJ pledges dedicated efforts

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NATO leaders pose for a group photograph with King Baudouin (left to right top row) Steingrímur Hermannsson, Iceland; Mrs. Gro Harlem Brundtland, Norway; Brian Mulroney, Canada; Turgut Ozal, Turkey; Ruud Lubbers, the Netherlands; Felipe Gonzalez, Spain; Jacques Santer, Luxembourg; Álvaro Cavaco Silva, Portugal; Ciriaco de Mita, Italy; (Bottom row) Poul Schlüter, Denmark; Margaret Thatcher, Great Britain; Manfred Woerner, West Germany; François Mitterrand, France; The King, President Bush, United States; Wilfried Martens, Belgium; Andreas Papandreou, Greece; and Helmut Kohl, Germany.

## SNF offer disappoints Shevardnadze...

**PARIS (Agencies)** — Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze said Wednesday he was disappointed with the West's proposed timetable for super-power talks on reducing short-range nuclear missiles (SNF).

Speaking to reporters at Paris airport, he called for the talks to run in parallel with negotiations on conventional disarmament.

The U.S. plan adopted by the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation (NATO) Tuesday would delay SNF talks until after a full agreement on reducing conventional weaponry and troop numbers in Europe.

"As far as short-range missiles are concerned I must say I was disappointed," the Soviet minister said.

"We must have parallel talks on this subject," he added.

On arrival in Paris Tuesday to

address a human rights conference, Shevardnadze described the four-point plan proposed by President George Bush as a step in the right direction.

But apart from his reservations Wednesday about the timing of SNF talks he also raised another problem — the presence of British and French troops in West Germany.

Shevardnadze said: "I wish to point out that British and French forces in West Germany represent 100,000 men and this disturbs the balance."

Under the Bush plan, the total number of U.S. and Soviet troops based in Europe would be cut to 275,000 each — involving about a 10 per cent reduction on the American side while slashing Soviet military personnel in Eastern Europe by more than half.

The plan also envisages cuts in helicopters and combat aircraft, tanks and artillery.

Bush called for an agreement on reducing conventional forces in six months to a year with reductions carried out by 1992.

Shevardnadze stopped short of rejecting the linked Western proposals on conventional and SNF talks.

"All this must be the object of negotiations... but there are some rather unfair aspects," he told a questioner earlier after lunch with French Foreign Minister Roland Dumas.

Soviet bloc allies at the disarmament talks in Vienna have praised Bush's proposals.

"We were pleasantly surprised by the details of President Bush's initiative," Hungary's ambassador to Austria, David Meiszter, was quoted by the official MTI news agency Wednesday as

saying.

"If his proposals come up for discussion at the conference here, this will be, in our opinion, the most important Western initiative on arms reduction since the signing of the INF agreement (in December 1987)," Meiszter told a plenary session Tuesday.

The talks on conventional forces in Europe (CFE), which started in March, are aimed at reducing the element of surprise attack by establishing a secure, stable balance of conventional forces at lower levels from the Atlantic to the Ural Mountains.

The Warsaw Pact Tuesday laid down figures on Central European zone conventional armament sub-ceilings, an area where most of the deadly weaponry is massed on the continent. The sub-ceilings refer only to central Europe.

The president's day in West Germany was arranged for maximum publicity.

Hundreds of American children whose parents work in the country were assembled on the sunlit grounds of Ambassador Vernon Walters' residence to钾 Koblenz. Fireboats shooting water high into the air greeted the cruise boat at Koblenz and about 1,000 people turned out to see the first couple.

Bush, in his speech, said Europe was undergoing a second renaissance in which "the forces of freedom are putting the Soviet status quo on the defensive."

Bush gave the crowd a campaign-style brief speech that was short on substance and long on goodwill.

At the home of Rita Süssmuth, president of the West German parliament, he gave a dozen

atrocities and said:

"The passion for freedom cannot be denied forever. The world has waited long enough. The time is right. Let Europe be whole and free."

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## ... and Bush throws another challenge

**MAINZ, West Germany (Agencies)** — U.S. President George Bush challenged Moscow Wednesday to tear down the Berlin Wall and unite Europe in a "democratic home" of free nations.

Describing the Berlin Wall as "a monument to the failure of communism," Bush declared: "It must come down. Bring glisten to East Berlin."

Following his speech, Bush took a two-hour cruise down the Rhine and then left for London.

The crowd assembled in this city along the Rhine river vigorously applauded every Bush reference to erasing the division of Europe that followed the defeat of Nazi Germany in World War II.

"Let Europe be whole and free," he said in a speech in this Rhineland city believed to be the high point of his 25-day visit to West Germany.

Bush, here only two weeks before Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev arrives for his first

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## Amnesty assails Israel's 'administrative detention'

LONDON (R) — Amnesty International has accused Israel of violating basic human rights by detaining without trial more than 5,000 Palestinians since the uprising in the occupied West Bank and Gaza began in December 1987.

The London-based human rights organisation said Thursday that at least 1,100 of the Palestinians remained in "administrative detention," most in harsh conditions in the Ketziot prisoner camp in the southern desert.

"Amnesty International believes that the existing practice... falls short of international human rights standard," it said in a report on detention without trial during the uprising.

Calling on Israel to review use of detention, Amnesty said: "Administrative detention can and has been abused to detain prisoners of conscience, held for the non-violent exercise of their right to freedom of expression

ists, academics, doctors, lawyers, teachers and human rights workers.

"The authorities have maintained that some were involved in demonstrations, throwing stones or other missiles, or setting up roadblocks," Amnesty said.

Others were alleged to be Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) activists spearheading the uprising.

"Those who are held on account of their non-violent political opinions or activities should be released immediately and unconditionally," the report said.

Amnesty urged that others should be allowed to lodge prompt appeals.

Israeli authorities stepped up the use of "administrative detention" in Israel and the occupied territories in March 1988, suspending prompt, automatic judicial review of detention orders and allowing any officer above the rank of colonel to issue them, the report said.

## Third round of U.S.-PLO talks soon

TUNIS (R) — The United States and the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) will soon resume official talks in Tunis, Palestinian news agency WAFA said Wednesday.

The agency said the decision to hold a third round of talks was taken Tuesday when PLO representative Hakan Balsan and U.S. Ambassador Robert Pelletreau had an informal meeting.

Washington requested the meeting following last week's emergency Arab summit in Casablanca and Secretary of State James Baker's statement calling on Palestinians and Israelis to make moves towards peace.

WAFA said Tuesday's meeting was also devoted to the PLO's position on the elections proposed in the occupied territories by Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir.

The PLO's Peace Strategy to

achieve an independent Palestinian state alongside Israel was given unanimous Arab support at the Casablanca summit which ended Friday.

Tuesday's talks in Tunis came after Baker set out specific steps for the Palestinians and Israel to advance the Middle East peace process.

The meeting in Tunis was called at the Americans' request, said a State Department official in Washington.

He declined to provide any details of the session, which he described as informal, saying only that it was meant to foster the U.S.-PLO dialogue on Middle East peace.

The Bush administration has begun a new initiative to bring Israelis and Palestinians into direct negotiations centred mostly on the Israeli proposal for elections in the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

Baker, in his first major

## talks soon

speech on the Middle East, last week urged both sides to take specific steps to help build an atmosphere of trust between enemies and said it was "high time for serious political dialogue" between Israelis and Palestinians.

He called on Israel to forswear annexation of the occupied territories, stop settlement activity, allow schools to reopen and "reach out to Palestinians as neighbours who deserve political rights."

He said Palestinians should "speak with one voice for peace" and translate the 18-month-old uprising from a "dialogue of violence... into a dialogue of politics and diplomacy."

Baker also urged Palestinians to accept the idea of elections in the occupied territories and to work with the United States and Israel to mould it into an acceptable form.

American officials said they were using force in some cases to prevent more refugees from returning. Amanzi said.

"Without the refugees, the guerrillas have nothing," he said.

The government's estimate of returning refugees could not be independently verified independently.

An estimated one-third of Afghanistan's 15 million population fled the 11-year-old insurgency against the Soviet-backed communist government headed by President Najibullah.

Refugees have started to trickle back since Soviet troops left Afghanistan Feb. 13, ending a nine-year intervention.

Najibullah Monday appealed for refugees to return home and

Foreign experts teach Afghans to probe for landmines in a camp in Pakistan

## Kabul says refugees returning

KABUL (AP) — The government said Tuesday that in the last two weeks at least 4,000 refugee families had left camps in Pakistan and Iran and returned to their war-devastated homeland.

Refugees were returning mainly to the western province of Herat and the southern provinces of Kandahar, Nangarhar and Logar, said Foreign Ministry spokesman Mohammad Nabi Amani.

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Amanzi also said the government forces pushed the guerrillas 25 kilometres from the city.

The government claims could

not be independently verified but air activity and missiles launched from the capital towards Jalalabad indicated fighting continued.

A U.N. delegation met Afghan rebels in Tehran Tuesday to discuss elections for a broad-based government in their country. Tehran Radio reported.

It quoted Seven Bnon, adviser to U.N. Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar, as saying both Moscow and the Kabul government had accepted there should be political changes.

The secretary general is committed to help the Afghan people. He wants peace to be established and a broad-based government to take over in that country after elections," the radio, monitored in Nicosia, quoted Bnon as saying.

Alijan Zahedi, spokesman for a coalition of eight Mujahideen groups in Tehran, told Bnon that U.S. and Soviet interference hampered free elections in Afghanistan.

Bnon, who arrived in Tehran Friday with Perez de Cuellar's assistant Dominique Picco, has also held two rounds of talks with Iranian Foreign Minister Ali Akbar Velayati.

## MIDDLE EAST NEWS IN BRIEF

### Shevardnadze postpones visits

MOSCOW (AP) — Changes in the schedule of the Congress of People's Deputies has forced Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze to postpone his official visits to Greece and Cyprus, a government spokesman said Tuesday. Foreign Ministry spokesman Gennady Gerasimov said the visits would take place at a later, unspecified date. Shevardnadze flew to Paris Tuesday for the opening session of an East-West conference on human rights and was to return Wednesday, Gerasimov said. The decision to cancel the visits was reached by mutual agreement, he said. It became necessary "because the Congress of People's Deputies will work longer than earlier scheduled," he said.

### U.N. seeks more money for Sudan relief

NAIROBI (AP) — The director of a United Nations relief effort to avert starvation in the southern Sudan said Tuesday he would seek \$50 million more for the operation. James Grant, head of Operation Lifeline Sudan, said the \$130 million originally donated by U.N.-member nations and private organizations will not see the project to completion. Speaking at a news conference in Nairobi, Grant said he would appeal for more money at a donors' conference in New York June 13 to carry the operation through the end of the year. He said two-thirds of the additional \$50 million would be earmarked for the International Committee of the Red Cross, whose Operation Lifeline funding expires June 30.

### MPs call for foreign fleet pullout

NICOSIA (AP) — A conference of Mediterranean parliament members ended here Tuesday with a call for the withdrawal of all foreign fleets from their sea. A communiqué at the end of the two-day meeting said this would be "a first step in the direction of eliminating tension and securing a favourable environment for the transformation of the region into a zone of peace and security." It added that the security of the region was a matter for the littoral states and "can only be achieved through understanding and cooperation among the Mediterranean countries, including cooperation in the fields of culture, economics, commerce and transportation." The conference was attended by mainly leftist parliamentarians from only 10 of the 18 littoral states, including the Palestine National Council. Those present came from the parliaments of Cyprus, France, Greece, Libya, Malta, Morocco, Palestine, Portugal, Spain, Syria and Yugoslavia.

### Mandate of UNDOF renewed

UNITED NATIONS (AP) — The U.N. Security Council Tuesday routinely extended the mandate of the 15-year-old U.N. Disengagement Observer Force (UNDOF) in the Middle East for six months. Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar said in a report to the 15-member council that UNDOF successfully has been supervising the disengagement of Israeli and Syrian forces since May 1974. He said the Israel-Syria sector has been quiet for the past six months, but said the continued presence of UNDOF was essential.

### Prince Sultan holds talks in London

LONDON (AP) — Defence Secretary George Younger and his Saudi Arabian counterpart, Prince Sultan, held talks in London Tuesday on "matters of mutual interest," the Ministry of Defence said. The ministry did not release any details of the 45-minute meeting.

## Palestinian video documents uprising

By Marjorie Olsler  
Reuter

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM — Alongside the usual action thrillers and B-movies, video shops in Arab Jerusalem are discreetly offering new fare — intifada videos.

These are films of the Palestinian uprising rarely seen on Israeli Television.

In towns, villages and refugee camps in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip, Palestinians with hand-held video cameras are filming clashes and marches where the army has network television crews.

Palestinians have come to realise the impact of pictures which have drawn international sympathy for their 17-month rebellion against Israeli occupation.

Amateur cameramen are increasingly supplying videotapes of protests and secret paramilitary marches of the Palestinian "Popular Army" to foreign news networks and Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) leaders abroad, activists said.

Videos were smuggled to PLO headquarters to prove the para-military units existed and to back requests for money.

"There is a growing awareness of the power and importance of pictures," said Palestinian journalist Daoud Kuttab. "But there are not enough people who understand that power."

Intifada video is a patriotic service for some, a business for others.

Ahmed, a cameraman in the West Bank, said taking pictures of demonstrations was his contribution to the intifada.

"I don't throw stones. I feel like I am doing something for the people," Ahmed said, adding Palestinians tended to respect only those who were injured or imprisoned in the uprising.

Hisham, who works regularly for foreign television, said he shoots for professional experience and for the money.

Both men asked that their real identities be concealed.

U.S. television networks, facing increasing restrictions in covering remote areas of the West Bank and Gaza Strip, first put small video cameras in the hands of local Palestinians in November 1988.

Israel had harried the media from the occupied territories during a meeting in Algiers of the Palestine National Council (PNC) which declared an independent state.

In one scene, three-year-old children in an underground West Bank nursery school play

a game called "intifada." They make mock roadblocks with building blocks. "Protesters" stone "soldiers" wearing red hardhats who club them over the head.

The centre's founder, Walid Atala, said he hoped the centre would become an embryonic Palestinian television studio producing news and documentaries for the Arab World.

To satisfy the hunger for news of the revolt, enterprising Palestinian video-owners have made montages of intifada pictures from Jordanian, Syrian and foreign television broadcasts.

Films circulating clandestinely in the West Bank are far more graphic than those on Israeli television, showing arrests, beatings, shootings and confrontations.

Friends and neighbours watch the videos together for their nightly entertainment. Despite the poor quality, some tapes end up on video shop shelves for rent at about \$1 a day.

Amateur cameramen have produced some strong images of recent unrest, although network managers say much of their video is sub-standard and unusable.

Palestinian cameramen are

often too intimidated by troops to film close-up.

On the first day of "Eid Al Fit" in April the army closed the entire Gaza Strip to the media. In clashes that day, troops shot dead three Palestinians and wounded nearly 150.

Despite the closure, several foreign networks received pictures from a Palestinian cameraman hidden in a house, who filmed activists stoning troops in a Gaza graveyard.

The networks have given cameras and basic training to Palestinians with good contacts, who had the advantage of speaking Arabic and knowing local residents suspicious of Israeli cameramen working for the foreign media.

Palestinians have grown wary of the foreign press after Israeli forces posed as journalists to enter villages and conduct arrests.

"The Shin Bet (secret police) has been successful in sowing distrust of anybody with a camera," the bureau chief said.

With some Israeli officials floating the idea of a prolonged closure of the occupied territories to crush the uprising, amateur Arab cameraman could become the main source of pictures for the foreign media,



Palestinians inspect the wreckage of a Palestinian home blown up by the Israeli occupation authorities as collective punishment for involvement in the uprising by one of the family members

## JORDAN TIMES DAILY GUIDE AND CALENDAR

### JORDAN TELEVISION

Tel: 773111-19

#### PROGRAMME ONE

15:30 Koran  
15:40 Programme review  
15:45 Children programme  
17:50 Local programme  
18:00 News for the Deaf  
18:20 Local programme  
18:25 "Alph."  
18:30 Hospital  
18:40 Programme review  
20:00 News in Arabic  
20:30 Local series  
21:30 Programme review  
21:40 Arabic play  
23:00 News in Arabic

#### PROGRAMME TWO

18:00 La Baby Sister

18:30 La Chante Aux Chansons  
News in French

19:15 Tonic

19:30 News in Hebrew

20:00 News in Arabic

Bill Cosby Show

Beauty and the Beast  
News in English

22:20 Feature film: "Travis hounds a battle"

#### PRAYER TIMES

03:53 Fajr (Sunrise / Dhuhr)

12:33 Dhur

16:14 'Asr

19:20 Maghrib

21:13 'Isha'

#### CHURCHES

St. Mary of Nazareth Church Swifts

Tel: 810740

#### Assemblies of God Church, Tel. 632785.

St. Joseph Church Tel. 624590.

Church of the Annunciation Tel. 637401.

De la Salle Church Tel. 661757

Terrassas Church Tel. 623366

Church of the Annunciation Tel. 623541.

Anglican Church Tel. 625383, Tel. 628543.

Armenian Catholic Church Tel. 771311.

Armenian Orthodox Church Tel. 775261.

St. Ephraim Church Tel. 771751.

Assumption International



Anti-smoking campaigners Wednesday gather at the Professional Association Complex to observe non-smoking day (Petra photo)

## Jordan observes non-smoking day

AMMAN (J.T.) — Jordan along with countries around the world Wednesday observed a non-smoking day as called for by the World Health Organisation (WHO).

The Ministry of Health in cooperation with the national committee for combatting smoking organised a one-day event at the Professional Association complex including lectures, discussions on eliminating the habit of smoking and economic and social effects of smoking as a whole, specially on pregnant women and diseases resulting from the habit.

Health Minister Zuhair Malhas addressed the meeting, outlining the ministry's primary health care programmes. The ministry will shortly introduce a medical specialisation for doctors in primary health care for which the candidate should obtain a three-year

training course and pass a general examination to be set by the Jordan Medical Board, Malhas noted.

The minister also gave details about plans to develop health centres in the Kingdom by introducing sections to care for non-communicable diseases. The ministry is also working on a national health insurance scheme, enabling all citizens to get medical treatment and health care, Malhas noted.

The minister also dwelt in his speech on the question of medicine in Jordan and its import-export operations, availability in the markets and the role of the ministry in fixing prices.

Malhas Tuesday evening made a television address to the public urging all citizens particularly women to give up the habit of smoking. During a press conference held on the eve of the event so far.

## Council of Amman region's development meets

# 21 industries born in '89

AMMAN (Petra) — The first four months of 1989 witnessed the birth of 21 new industries within the Amman region with an overall capital of JD 6.25 million, thus raising the total number of industries in this region to 159, according to the director of the department of industry at the Ministry of Industry and Trade.

The industrial sector in the Amman region contributes nearly 22 per cent of the total gross domestic product (GDP) and provides employment to nearly one quarter of the country's workforce, according to the official who spoke at a meeting called by the Amman development council to review achievements within the present 1986-1990 five-year national development plan. According to the department

director, the government's recent measures to encourage industry, has given incentive to investors who displayed greater interest in launching industrial ventures.

The director pointed to some difficulties that face the industry, citing marketing and the rising cost of input requirements.

Mr. Ali Dajani, an advisor to the Amman Chamber of Industry, told the meeting that Jordan's industrial sector contributed JD 270 million to the gross national product (GNP) which amounts to JD 1,440 million.

The council heard a report by the director of education in the Amman region who said that school buildings for which JD 14 million had been allocated, cost JD 17.5 million to carry out due to the high cost of appropriated

land for setting up buildings. School buildings are needed to do away with the existing two-shift schools in rented buildings, he said.

The health director in Amman governorate said that 14 health projects were carried out in the Amman region in the first quarter of 1989, executed at the cost of JD 4 million. He said that the electricity projects during the same period cost JD 5 million, and further electric power projects are underway.

The council meeting was also addressed by Amman Governor Mohamad Ali Al Amin who said that the country was facing difficulties due to the shortage of hard currency but the development process, he said will continue within the available means.



Amman Governor Mohammad Ali Al Amin (second from right) Wednesday chairs a meeting of the

Amman region's development at Amman's Chamber of Industry (Petra photo)

## WHAT'S GOING ON

The following listings are compiled from monthly bulletins and the daily Arabic press. Readers are advised to verify the listed time and place with the concerned institutions.

### EXHIBITIONS

- \* An archaeological exhibition entitled "The Treasures of Hasmonean Desert" at the Department of Antiquities Registration Centre.
- \* An art exhibition by three North African artists at Abdul Hamid Shoman Foundation.
- \* An art exhibition by Ahmad Abu Othman at the Housing Bank Gallery.
- \* An exhibition by French artist "Olivier Mutillo" at the French Cultural Centre.
- \* An exhibition of documents and photos depicting Jordan's history and development under His Majesty King Hussein's rule, at the Mafrqa Youth Centre.
- \* A photography exhibition by Haitham Juweinat entitled "Jordan Under King Hussein's Reign" at the Salt Municipality Library.
- \* An exhibition of cartoons entitled "40 Years Federal Republic of Germany" at the Goethe Institute.
- \* An art exhibition by Jordanian and Arab artists at Al Wasiti Art Gallery.

### LECTURE

- \* A lecture on art by Mazen Asfour at Al Wasiti Art Gallery — 6:30 p.m.

### FILM

- \* A feature film entitled "Stage Door" at the American Centre — 7:30 p.m.

## NATIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

**DIALOGUE:** Minister of Youth Awad Khleifat has said that the ministry strives by all means to encourage constructive dialogue and open channels of contacts to solve the problems of the youth. Addressing a youth cultural festival held Wednesday in Sahab on Jordan's Independence Day, Khleifat reviewed the achievements of His Majesty King Hussein to attain Aab solidarity and noted the ministry's role in educating youths. He added that the ministry would present its services to the youths in Jordan and abroad (Petra).

**CROSS-COUNTRY RACE:** A total of 72 students from Karak Wednesday participated in a cross-country race on the occasion of Jordan's Independence Day. Maan Governorate will celebrate Tuesday this anniversary by holding festivals involving speeches, poems, and artistic activities (Petra).

**COURSES CONCLUDED:** A four-day training course on advanced computers and their applications, organised by Jordan University of Science and Technology, concluded Tuesday. The course included lectures and practical lessons on advanced computers, in addition to slide and film shows about the various applications of computer systems. At Yarmouk University another training course on the use of computers, held by the continuous learning and community service department in cooperation with the Jordan Engineers Association branch in Irbid, concluded also Tuesday and participants were awarded certificates by the department director Mohammad Khatib (Petra).

**ENTERTAINMENT:** 600 guests were entertained at Jordan Inter-Continental by the local band Survivors, which included a large number of secretaries from the private and public sectors. Mr. Majed Khalil, general manager, welcomed the guests in a speech addressed to all the invitees praising the role of secretaries. The celebration was also attended by members of the diplomatic corps in Jordan and a number of company directors and press (J.T.).

## ICARDA names Amman regional centre

AMMAN (J.T.) — A Amman-based office operated by the International Centre for Agricultural Research in Dry Areas (ICARDA) is to become a regional centre providing services to countries in the western Asian region in addition to Jordan, according to an announcement by the Council of Ministers here Wednesday. The announcement said that the Jordanian government agreed to arrangements made in this respect with the ICARDA office.

ICARDA was established in 1977 to undertake research and training relevant to the needs of developing countries and specifically for the agricultural systems of west Asia and North Africa.

Its general objective is to help increase agricultural productivity and food supplies, thus improving economic and social living standards.

The Cabinet, in its weekly session, also approved of recommendations put forth by the Civil

Service Commission on criteria to be adopted for the appointing civil servants in public offices during 1989. The recommendations call for a competition to determine the fitness of the candidate for the job.

The Cabinet also approved of a regulation, allowing the Public Transport Corporation (PTC) to take part in the process of transporting would be pilgrims to Mecca and Medina this year. It said that the PTC can assign up to 75 buses for this task and will be operating alongside vehicles owned by other private companies and in coordination with the Ministry of Awqaf and Islamic Affairs which organises the transportation and accommodation of pilgrims.

The Cabinet approved of the re-formation of the Armenian Orthodox board in Jordan. The board will be chaired by Bishop Vahan Topolian, the Cabinet said.



Minister of Planning Zaid Fariz (centre) and American Ambassador Roscoe Suddarth (second from left) sign two agreements at the Ministry of Planning by which USAID grants Jordan \$4.9 million for health and private sector projects (Petra photo).

## U.S. grants Jordan \$4.9 million for health, private sector projects

AMMAN (J.T.) — The United States Agency for International Development (USAID) Wednesday added \$2.4 million to an initial \$5.5 million grant to assist service-oriented businesses in the private sector in Jordan. Dr. Ziad Fariz, minister of planning; Roscoe S. Suddarth, the U.S. ambassador to Jordan; and Dr. Richard Johnson, acting director of USAID signed the agreement.

Private Services Development (PSD) is working to strengthen services sector businesses and professionals in four targeted areas: computer, accounting and auditing, marketing and advertising, and industrial management and engineering services. The purpose of the project is to expand and improve service quality and delivery so that Jordanian services can compete favourably in regional and international markets as well as provide improved service delivery within the Kingdom.

It is worth mentioning that Dr. Issam Merei has recently been appointed executive director for PSD. Dr. Merei has worked as a professor of accounting, statistics, and finance in the United States, and as a consultant to Saudi Arabia in the development of the accounting profession.

Both sides signed another agreement Wednesday under which USAID is adding \$2.5 mil-

lion to a \$5 million Ministry of Health public health information project begun in 1988. The project will raise the awareness within the medical community and the general public that lengthening the interval between births to a minimum of 24 months will save lives.

The relationship between birth intervals and maternal and child health in Jordan is one of the most dramatic in the world. More than 45 per cent of all births in Jordan occur less than 24 months after an earlier birth. Infant mortality for Jordanian children who are products of such births is an exceedingly high 92 to 128 per 1,000 births. Infant mortality among these children is two to three times as high as children born at 24 and 36 months intervals (38 per 1,000) and three to four times the rate for those born at 36 to 60 months intervals (29 per 1,000).

A team of prominent interna-

tional scientists recently examined the infant mortality rate in eleven countries, including Jordan. Their research concluded that increasing the birth interval in Jordan to at least 24 months would result in a 40 per cent reduction in infant deaths and a 29 per cent reduction in maternal mortality. These estimates are consistent with other international data which show that women bearing children and children born at intervals of 24 months or less are exposed to twice the risk of mortality. It is clear that short birth intervals are lowering the level of maternal/child health in Jordan.

The goal of the project funded by USAID today, is to improve maternal and child health and to reduce both infant and maternal mortality by the increased practice of birth spacing. This will be accomplished through a programme which will make both prospective parents and health care providers more knowledgeable about the risks of short birth intervals and about the birth spacing products that are licensed and available in Jordan. The project will utilise expertise from Jordan's private sector to make birth spacing information, technology, and products more widely available through both public health clinics and private sector outlets in Jordan.

## Jordan's history conference opens

LYON (J.T.) — A five-day international conference on the history and archaeology of Jordan was opened here Wednesday with the participation of delegates from 18 countries.

Despite the limitations imposed by its rather small JD 120,000 promotion budget for 1989, the ministry's expectations are that the country will still witness an additional influx of tourists in the coming 12 months.

Already, he says, there has been a 300 per cent increase in Italian tourists visiting Jordan in the first half of 1989 compared with the same period in 1988. Austrian tourists, increased by 150 per cent, and European tourists in general by 70 per cent. A total of 120,000 tourists from Europe visited Jordan last year.

Once-a-week chartered flights from Helsinki, Finland, to Aqaba started in 1987 and have now gone up to four flights a week. The next step, according to Atallah, is to have direct charter flights between Zurich and Aqaba starting in September this year.

While some may say this sounds too good to be true, Ministry of Tourism Director General Nasri Atallah believes the key word to explain it is "promotion."

"We are now reaping the fruit of our work over the past years," Atallah said at the press conference. "The reason is promotion."

The ministry has been cooperating with Jordan's national carrier, Royal Jordanian, in promoting tourism around the world under an agreement.

According to Munir Nasser, director of International Traders, the local travel agency that arranged the Concorde trip, each one of the 100 Concorde travellers would have spent in Jordan an average of £200 to 250 a day in terms of food, drink and shopping.

The four-day trip, which took the tourists to Aqaba, Petra, Jerash and the Dead Sea, included a steam-train ride from Dabaa to Amman arranged by the Amman Marriott Hotel.

The Department of Antiquities, the University of Jordan and Yarmouk University together are presenting 14 research works to the conference which will review historical facts



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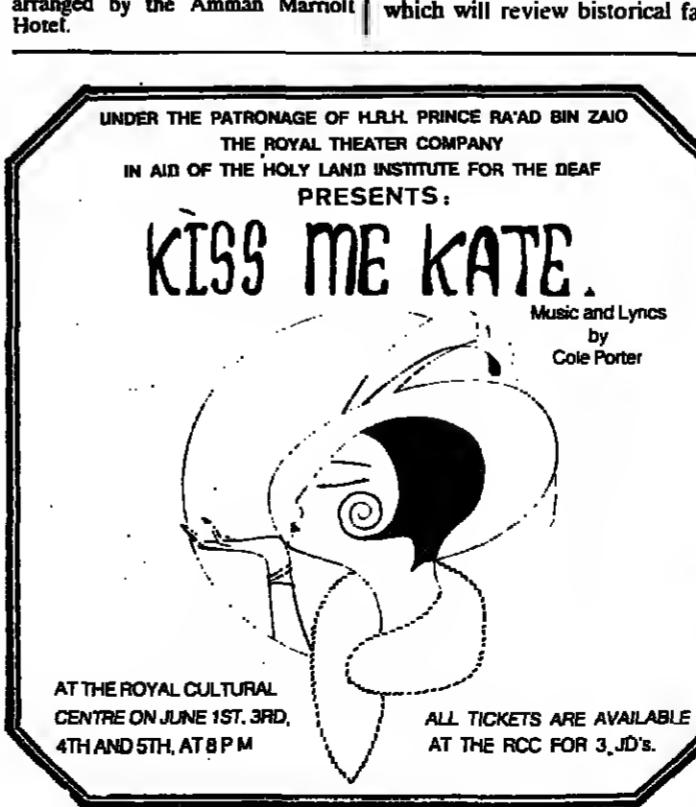
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### Let's debate

THE QUESTION being debated nowadays in the press and among officials at the Ministry of Education and by school teachers over a five-day week for schools in Jordan is indeed worth the attention of the general public.

It is difficult to find a family in Jordan which would not be affected by a decision on this matter; and since questions of national interest like cutting on expenditure and consumption are involved, a careful consideration must precede any final decision.

The Ministry of Education has put forth the issue for public debate, and one would naturally expect to see some reaction, largely in the press and through debates on radio and television. Favourable comments appearing in the media have so far pointed to the advantages of adopting a new five-day school system, noting among other things cuts on water and electricity spending at hundreds of schools by tens of thousands of students, saving petrol currently spent on commuting students and teachers from and to schools and allowing an extra day off for both teachers and students to conduct personal business at government departments which otherwise would be impossible to do without interrupting normal teaching programmes. Opponents of the idea however, argue that such a system would require a re-organisation of school timetables, and would most certainly cause a degree of confusion to the normal life of working mothers, and create more difficulties at two-shift-a-day schools, with long delays in the evening classes.

Arguments put forth in the local press include a suggestion that various government departments should also join the five day week, thus offering parents the chance to plan for weekends with their children, overcome the problem of working mothers who leave children behind at home and the stage for boosting domestic tourism, enabling the public to visit tourist and archaeological sites in their country. If and when a five-day school week is established, children will no doubt be spending longer hours at school with probably a lunch break. This in turn opens the way for a surge in the catering business with the help of school canteens which in turn would create more jobs for the unemployed.

We are now at the debating stage, but should a decision on this issue appear difficult to take, then a survey could be useful to balance the pros and the cons on the one hand, and gather a wider margin of views on the other. As long as the public's interest is to be safeguarded, even a conference grouping officials, parents, students and teachers could be feasible.

Let us hope that no decision, is taken in this matter before all areas and avenues have been explored, and before the majority of the public is convinced of its benefits to the society as a whole.

### JORDAN PRESS EDITORIALS

Al Ra'i daily on Wednesday launched an attack on Israeli media which it said have been poisoning the atmosphere with a hostile propaganda campaign against Jordan. The paper said that the Israeli information services and the press have been trying to paint a negative picture about Jordan's national economy by misinterpreting the frank and open statement made by the Central Bank governor on television on the financial and monetary situation in the Kingdom. This Israeli campaign the paper said, is an evil one designed to shake the Jordanian people's confidence in their country and future. But, it said, that the citizens of Jordan are quite used to such tactics and firmly believe that this country remains a solid rock on which many intrigues, plots and other hostile actions break and get thwarted. The bank governor has shed light on the economic and monetary situation in the Kingdom, pointing to the fact that the Jordanian dinar could at any time fluctuate upwards or downwards in value depending on the basket of currencies to which it is linked, the paper noted. But, it added, this fact is being exploited by the Israeli media who misinterpreted the situation and cast doubt on Jordan's economic adaptation programme to serve its own evil interests.

A columnist in Al Ra'i daily tackles the question of implementing resolutions passed by the Casablanca summit, pointing to the fact that a number of Arab leaders have been talking about the necessity for their implementation as soon as possible. King Fahd of Saudi Arabia considered the resolutions as a practical translation of the Arab leaders' ideas, while President Muharrak of Egypt and Algerian leaders have been dwelling on the same topic on which King Hassan of Morocco also commented on Tuesday, says Mahmoud Rimawi. The writer notes that since the resolutions were approved unanimously the Arab masses expect all their articles to be carried out in the letter and the spirit. The Arab masses expect one clear interpretation of these resolutions, and expect prompt implementation as they also expect to see their leaders meeting in six months' time from now to assess the results, the writer adds. He says that the coming few weeks serve as a touchstone for Arab leaders' resolve and credibility.

Al Dustour daily discussed a three-hour meeting chaired by King Hussein and attended by the representatives of the media information services in the Kingdom. The paper said that the King tackled all subjects of concern to the Jordanian citizens in general and dwelt on the methods that should be adopted in dealing with news in the press. King Hussein summed up the Casablanca summit meeting and its outcome, discussed Jordanian economic measures, touched on the situation in Lebanon and focused attention on the Palestine question and Jordan's on-going support for the Palestinians in their struggle for freedom, the paper noted. It said King Hussein breathed renewed hope in the hearts of the Jordanian people when he announced that Arab countries have responded favourably to Jordan's financial needs, and when he announced that parliamentary life will soon return to the Kingdom. The meeting with the King the paper said was a precious one for the press and marked a new era in the channels of communication between the leader and his people.

## Power struggle seen in China when Deng dies

By William Kazer  
Reuter

PEKING — The shake-up in the Peking leadership prompted by mass student protests over the past six weeks is only a foretaste of the race to succeed elderly strongman Deng Xiaoping, diplomats say.

"This is only round one," said a Western diplomat.

"The settlement, whatever it is, will be short-term, lasting only until Deng dies," said another.

Deng, China's 84-year-old senior leader and the architect of an economic reform programme begun in 1978, has for the moment thrown his considerable influence behind hardliners who have closed ranks under the banner of Premier Li Peng.

He has split with his former protege, Communist Party chief Zhao Ziyang, who has supported student protesters in their quest for greater freedom and political reform.

Zhao has not been seen in public in 10 days and is expected to be accused of major errors or even of leading an anti-party clique.

"Much depends on how long Deng lives," said a diplomat. "But people who support him may not back his successors."

Deng is in reasonably good health for his age but he tires easily, rarely holding official meetings in the afternoon. He is often unsteady when forced to stand for long periods.

Li Peng, 60, Soviet-trained engineer who appears to have benefited most from the current

power struggle, will be manoeuvring to consolidate his power in whatever time Deng has left, they said.

He has not been close to Deng, who backed his rival in the past, but the two are believed to have forged an alliance of convenience.

"At the moment, Li needs Deng," said a diplomat. "And Deng has to rely on Li since he has broken with the leading reformer over political change. Deng may see Li as someone who can protect his economic reforms."

Party stalwarts like Chen Yun, the ailing 84 year old who has favoured central economic planning, and Peng Zhen, 87, former chairman of China's parliament, have thrown their support behind Li.

"But the whole equation may soon change," said a diplomat. "They have all been united in their opposition to Zhao. But once he is formally removed, then they will be fighting among themselves."

Much depends on how many reformers are purged along with Zhao. The Communist Party chief has considerable support within the party and government as well as among the public in general.

"Li Peng or anyone else will find it very difficult to run a government without the support of these people," said a diplomat.

The current power struggle has also shown China specialists that for all of the country's impressive reforms since 1978 one area has not changed, the lack of a smooth succession process.

## The Philippines: heading for unrest?

By Larry Jagan

MANILA — The Philippines could be heading for Latin American-style unrest as the country's leaders accept the austere terms imposed by the International Monetary Fund (IMF).

Prices of essential goods will soar, warn critics, leading to food riots in the coming months on the scale of those recently experienced in Venezuela.

A storm of protest erupted when the Aquino administration announced last month the conditions of the IMF \$1.3 billion loan package which it had negotiated.

Under the agreement with the IMF, the Philippines government must reduce public spending by \$838 million and increase the prices of rice — the country's staple food — electricity, water and transport. All this is clearly set out in the "letter of intent" which the Philippines will be obliged to sign before the loan is actually made available.

Solito Monsod, the Economic Planning Secretary, excluded by Aquino from the government's recent discussions with IMF officials, angrily attacked the conditions imposed by the IMF: they would produce downturn in economic growth and accelerate inflation, she said, resulting in massive political unrest and public protest.

The government, however, argues that the agreement is an essential step to getting funds which, it is hoped, will help the Philippines land reform programme among other areas.

The government is seeking \$3 billion in new loans and expects

to get some \$10 billion through the proposed international Philippine Aid Plan. This mini-Marshall Plan (the name of the economic aid scheme which enabled Europe to recover from the ravages of World War II) was first proposed by the USA over a year ago. It is expected to come into operation later this year now that the IMF has given the Aquino administration a "seal of good housekeeping".

With the IMF's acceptance that the Philippines economy is basically sound, officials are confident that donors, particularly the U.S. and Japan, will readily commit money to the multi-aid plan when they meet at the World Bank-sponsored pledging meeting in Tokyo next month.

"This will be our last chance," says Roberto Villanueva, who is in charge of the aid programme. "If we fail, the Philippines will be perennially rocked by instability well into the next century."

At the root of the country's problem is its enormous foreign debt, much of which was accumulated during the Marcos era and which currently totals around \$30 billion. According to Amado Mendoza, an economics lecturer at the University of the Philippines and an anti-debt campaigner, each Filipino currently owes \$500 to foreign lenders.

As if this burden was not enough, he says, the government is eager to deepen national indebtedness and even has the "gall" to claim that this is actually as answer to the country's development needs.

"Foreign debt — the poison! IMF — the disease," proclaimed

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a poster at a recent rally against debt in Manila.

"What the IMF is saying is that if we want to grow we must grow at the expense of the people," says Senator John Osmena.

Government officials vehemently argue that refusing to pay its debt would turn the country into an international financial pariah and deter future foreign aid and investment which are seen as essential to economic growth. There is no alternative, they insist, to taking on new loans in order to service existing ones and to reinstate foreign confidence in the economy.

At a recent lunch with European businessmen in Manila — guests of the government — the Speaker of the House of Representatives, Ramon Mitra, embarrassed even the most ardent supporters of government policy when, with tears in his eyes, he pleaded with his audience to invest in the Philippines.

Many argue that the Philippines is caught in a debt trap which makes it increasingly difficult to break out of its poverty. They say that giving creditors 44 cents of every peso the government spends is actually preventing it from implementing constructive development policies. — PANOS.

## Argentina reconsiders possibility of early handover of power

By Alberto Arebalos  
Reuter

BUENOS AIRES — The possibility has re-emerged of an early handover of power from Argentine President Raul Alfonsin to President-elect Carlos Menem despite Alfonsin's pledge to see out his term, which ends on Dec. 10.

The bringing forward of the handover is still an issue — it is a step that should be taken as an answer to an emergency," said senator Eduardo Menem, a brother of the president-elect. Two weeks after his Peronist movement trounced the ruling radicals.

Alfonsin, who last weekend offered to step down in favour of Menem but decided to stick out his full six-year term, could yet have to leave office early due to

the deepening economic crisis.

Alfonsin on Sunday went on television to announce a package of emergency measures to tackle Argentina's worst ever economic crisis, including strict currency controls, higher taxes and cuts in public spending.

Monthly inflation is forecast at over 100 per cent for June, purchasing power of salaries has crumbled and there has been a wave of supermarket lootings.

Alfonsin had promised the package after talks on an early handover of power to the Peronists broke down last week.

Menem said on Sunday, however, that he was ready to assume the presidency if necessary.

"I don't want to talk about that issue. The handover will take place on Dec. 10, but we are ready to take office at any time," Menem told reporters in his

home province of La Rioja, 1,100 kilometres northwest of Buenos Aires.

The mass-circulation daily Clarin's Sunday political column was particularly blunt about the political problem Argentina is suffering.

"A finished government, lacking political clout and credible reflexes, lives side by side with an elected government which demands time to adjust its coming to power," Clarin's political columnist Joaquin Morales Sola said.

"One's impotence and the other's needs are desperately protracting social conflict and economic collapse," he added.

With the perspective of a three-digit monthly inflation, an industrial crisis and a wave of supermarket lootings, politicians and business leaders say a six-month transition period is too long.

The emergency economic package, whose content had been widely foreseen, did nothing to calm anxieties.

"What's needed here is a confidence shock, because this government lacks confidence both inside and outside the country," said Menem, who last week said he would take power early if all sectors backed him.

Menem's economic advisers

are working on a programme they say will bring down inflation to 12 per cent per year in 18 months from the day he takes charge, given support from large local economic groups.

"Menem has the plan, the confidence and the backing, all of which the government lacks.

What are we waiting for to have Menem in power?" one businessman said.

## 'Young Turk' will not solve problems

By Marcelo Cantelmi  
Reuter

BUENOS AIRES — The appointment of a 33-year-old legislator as Argentina's economy minister has been condemned by financial experts who say he will be unable to pull the country out of its chronic economic crisis.

The unexpected naming of Jesus Rodriguez, head of the Social Democrat with a following among the Radical Party youth and a reputation as a hard-nosed negotiator acknowledged by political opponents.

Government sources, who asked not to be identified, said the measure Rodriguez would

most probably carry out involved exchange rate controls to shore up the austral, tax increases and cuts in tax breaks and export incentives for industries.

A similar set of measures were rejected on Tuesday by Menem, who said Peronism would not endorse a programme which was "patently against the people."

Rodriguez is a staunch backer of former economy minister Juan Sourrouille and former treasury secretary Mario Brodersohn, who resigned on March 31 after the then-radical presidential candidate, Eduardo Angeloz, said they lacked the ability to handle Argentina's economic problems.

"One cannot get out of hyperinflation without credibility. You overcome it with political and economic power and Rodriguez lacks it," Enrique Szwarcz, chief economist of the Latin American Economic Investigations Foundation, told Reuters.

The situation has not changed one iota with Rodriguez's appointment and won't change soon," said Osvaldo Corriente, president of CAME, a small-and medium-sized business chamber which has said that retail sales fell 70 per cent during May.

The experts said they doubted whether Rodriguez would be able to rein in runaway inflation that private economists forecast will top 50 per cent during May alone.

"Alfonsin's move to put a man with no credibility within the markets at the helm of the economy ministry at this crucial time is a negative view of a solution," the influential business daily Ambito Financiero said.

Alfonsin had promised to impose an "economy of war" to contain prices after his offer to step down before his term ends on December 10 was turned down on Tuesday by president-elect Carlos Menem.

Alfonsin's Radical Party was beaten convincingly by opposition Peronists in the May 14 elections.

Since Tuesday Alfonsin looked within and outside his party for a candidate to stabilise the chaotic economy, which, coupled with political uncertainty over the long transition period, spurred interest



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SEPT / SEPT

"Voici pourquoi ils me tuent". Le député israélien de gauche, Yossi Sarid, membre du Mouvement des droits civiques (Ratz) et favorable à la création d'un Etat palestinien indépendant, a provoqué un certain émoi en publiant la semaine dernière son "testament politique" dans les colonnes du journal Haaretz. Convaincu d'être sur la liste noire des extrémistes de droite d'ISRAEL, il a mis en garde les autorités de l'Etat hébreu contre tout laxisme à l'égard des "fanatiques et (...) brutes de toutes sortes". Connue pour avoir été à l'origine, en 1984, du démantèlement d'un réseau terroriste juif anti-arabe opérant en Cisjordanie occupée, il s'est inquiété de leur remise en liberté après de courtes peines de prison en raison du soutien explicite que leur a apporté le Likoud et notamment Yitzhak Shamir. Dénonçant leur implication dans les récentes expéditions punitives de colons contre des villages palestiniens, le cri d'alarme de Yossi Sarid a été relayé dimanche au cours du Conseil des ministres par une véhément accuser prononcé par le chef d'Etat-major israélien à l'encontre de ces pratiques. Les déchirures qui se font jour dans la classe politique face à l'engrenage de la violence dans les territoires occupés ont conduit lundi le président français, François Mitterrand à évoquer la "gravité des affrontements" et à appeler les dirigeants israéliens à la "lucidité". La radicalisation du gouvernement de Tel-Aviv n'est sans doute pas non plus étrangère à la prudence diplomatique affichée quelques jours plus tôt par l'Angleterre, lors du voyage à Londres de M. Shamir. Le premier ministre israélien n'a en effet guère plus obtenu qu'un vague soutien à son plan de paix.

Changeant son fusil d'épaule, Yitzhak Shamir a lancé un appel aux pays arabes les invitant à "une table de négociations", à l'issu du SOMMET DE CASABLANCA, au cours duquel il a été notamment acceptée la résolution 242 du Conseil de sécurité de l'ONU sur le droit à l'existence d'Israël. Selon les observateurs, la décision de la conférence arabe fournit surtout un solide appui à la stratégie pacifique de l'OLP. Tout en demandant la convocation d'une conférence internationale de paix sur le Proche-Orient, les chefs d'Etat de gouvernement arabes réunis au Maroc n'ont en effet admis le principe d'élections en Cisjordanie et à Gaza qu'une fois obtenu le retrait total des forces de Tsahal. Unanimes dans leur soutien à la cause palestinienne, ils n'ont pas réussi à trouver de solution efficace et originale pour sortir le Liban de l'ornière. Alors que certains, Irak en tête, prônent la manière forte pour obtenir le retrait des forces "étrangères" syriennes, israéliennes et iraniennes du pays du Cédre, le sommet s'est limité à la création d'un comité de trois dirigeants (les souverains marocain et saoudien, ainsi que le président algérien) chargé de trouver une solution politique au conflit. Satisfaisante pour Damas, cette décision ressemble à s'y méprendre à la mission confiée, en janvier dernier, à un comité ministériel de la Ligue arabe, qui avait abouti elle à une impasse totale. (D'après agences).

EN BREF

**Retour au panier.** La banque centrale jordanienne (BCJ) a décidé lundi de rattacher le dinar à un panier de devises et d'abandonner la pratique, instituée il y a près d'un an, d'un taux quotidien obligatoire unique lié au dollar. Adoptée au cours de la première réunion de la BCJ depuis la nomination de son nouveau gouverneur, Mohammad Saïd Al-Naboulsi, cette mesure vise à renforcer les réserves en devises du Trésor qui avaient atteint en mars dernier leur niveau le plus bas (120 millions de dollars). Par ailleurs, les banques privées se sont vues imposer le dépôt systématique de 35% de leurs fonds en monnaies étrangères auprès de la BCJ. M. Naboulsi a également précisé lors d'une interview à la télévision nationale, que la Jordanie ne détenait plus que "les deux tiers de ses réserves en or, qui s'élèvent à un million d'onces". Le gouverneur de la banque centrale a enfin affirmé que la dette extérieure du royaume "s'élève à 8,1 milliards de dollars, sans compter les intérêts", et non entre 6 et 7 milliards, comme l'indiquaient les autorités jusqu'à présent.

**Indépendance.** Six mille élèves et étudiants des écoles publiques et privées ont participé lundi à la célébration du 43ème anniversaire de l'indépendance de la Jordanie, sur la pelouse du stade de la cité sportive d'Amman. En présence du roi Hussein, de la reine Noor et du prince héritier Hassan, près de deux mille jeunes ont notamment formé un tableau vivant représentant les quatre chefs d'Etat des pays membres du Conseil de coopération arabe (CCA). La fête nationale, qui devait intervenir le 25 mai, avait été reportée en raison du voyage du souverain hachémite à Casablanca pour le sommet arabe extraordinaire.

**Repos.** Le ministère de l'Education a engagé samedi dernier un débat public sur l'éventuelle augmentation du nombre de jours de congés hebdomadaires dans les écoles. Parents et enseignants ont été invités à se prononcer sur l'instauration, dès l'année prochaine, d'un week-end de deux jours (vendredi et samedi) dans les établissements publics et privés. Selon les autorités, la réforme du rythme scolaire se traduirait par un accroissement d'une demi-heure à quarante-cinq minutes des horaires de cours chaque semaine. Elle permettrait surtout aux instituteurs et professeurs de bénéficier d'une matinée durant laquelle les services publics sont ouverts, "sans réduction de salaire", promet-on au ministère.

**Deux siècles.** Le sultan Qabous d'Oman est arrivé mardi à Paris pour une visite officielle de quatre jours en France, la première du genre d'un souverain omanais depuis l'instauration des relations diplomatiques entre les deux pays, il y a deux cents ans. Le sultan Qabous s'est entretenu dès mardi après-midi avec François Mitterrand. Il a également été reçu, hier, par le maire de Paris, Jacques Chirac, puis par le premier ministre, Michel Rocard. Selon un quotidien des Emirats, cette visite pourrait notamment donner lieu à l'achat par Oman de Mirage 2000 français.

**Sida.** Plus de 5 000 nouveaux cas de sida ont été enregistrés au mois de mai par l'Organisation mondiale de la santé, portant à 151 191 le nombre total de malades signalés à l'OMS. Le tiers d'entre eux concerne le continent américain. L'institution des Nations-Unies estime néanmoins que le nombre réel des cas de sida dans le monde avoisine les 400 000, et qu'il se situe entre 5 et 10 millions dans dix ans.

**Bouygues en Libye.** Le groupe français Bouygues, numéro un mondial du bâtiment et des travaux publics, étudie actuellement, à la tête d'un consortium de sept entreprises européennes, un projet d'irrigation de la côte libyenne. Il s'agit, selon le président de la société, Francis Bouygues, d'acheminer l'eau pompée à 800 kilomètres au sud de Tripoli par une énorme canalisation de plus de six mètres de diamètre. Coût de l'ouvrage: six milliards de dollars.

**Fausse piste.** Deux pilotes australiens ont été suspendus de leurs fonctions la semaine dernière pour avoir confondu... une autoroute avec la piste d'atterrissement de l'aéroport de Mackay, dans le nord du pays. Le 14 mai, ils avaient failli poser leur Boeing 737 sur la chaussée. Ce n'est qu'à une cinquantaine de mètres du sol qu'ils se sont aperçus de leur "erreur".

**Poker à l'as.** Trois cents policiers israéliens ont brutallement interrompu le week-end dernier les parties de poker et de roulette qui fleurissaient depuis plusieurs mois au large du port d'Elat, sur la Mer Rouge. Interdits de séjour en Israël, les "tambours" avaient ingénierement mis au point des casinos flottants, qui apparaissaient le soir et étaient l'ancre hors des eaux territoriales. Une centaine d'entre eux ont été arrêté au cours de cette opération coup de poing sur le tapis vert.

**Appelez-moi Myanma.** La Birmanie a décidé de changer de nom et de s'appeler désormais Myanma. Selon la presse officielle, cette modification vise à tenir compte des minorités ethniques qui cohabitent dans le pays avec la majorité birmane. Majorité qui ne devrait pas se sentir trop dépayisée; "Myanma" est pratiquement synonyme de Birmanie dans leur langue. On appelle ça le changement dans la continuité.

De l'invention de l'hôpital à l'opération de la cataracte

# Quand l'Islam encourage la médecine arabe

Protégés, responsabilisés, valorisés, les médecins des premiers siècles de l'Islam ont étonnamment enrichi la pratique médicale. Dévots de la science, ils se sont distingués comme d'excellents chirurgiens et psychothérapeutes. La Renaissance européenne leur doit notamment le premier manuel d'ophtalmologie.

L'hôpital, tel que nous le connaissons aujourd'hui, a plus ou moins cinq cents ans. Services spécialisés, isolement des malades contagieux, enregistrement des patients, fourniture de vêtements spéciaux et garde des effets personnels jusqu'à la fin des traitements... Des IXe siècle, ces principes "modernes" ont guidé la construction et le fonctionnement des établissements hospitaliers en Perse et en Irak.

Souvent dotés d'une école et d'une bibliothèque, ces centres de soins d'un genre nouveau, et qui fleurissent dans le monde musulman du VIIIe au XIIe siècles, ont souvent été à l'origine du développement prodigieux du nombre des praticiens. Protégés, encouragés et souvent financés par les notables, sinon les califes eux-mêmes, les étudiants et professionnels de la médecine musulmane ont ainsi bénéficié, dès le début du IXe siècle, des traductions des œuvres grecques, persanes, indiennes et syriaques.

Prolifique, la profession n'en était pas moins contrôlée. Tout médecin devait obtenir une licence avant d'exercer. En clair, il passait un examen, dont la tradi-



Un prince, un médecin et son assistant, exprimant par leur réunion la parfaite osmose entre le pouvoir et le monde médical dans l'Islam. (Illustration d'un traité médical du XIIIe siècle).

sion s'est maintenue avec plus ou moins de rigueur jusqu'à la fin du Moyen Âge. Le comportement du médecin durant sa carrière était lui aussi réglé par des devoirs moraux inspirés de l'Islam. Le praticien se devait notamment de connaître la situation sociale, familiale du patient. Une attention, qui selon certains traités devait précéder tout diagnostic et prescription. Et ce dès le IXe siècle.

Ces notions morales tacites donnaient peu à peu naissance à un véritable code déontologique.

Entre autres qualités, le médecin devait afficher modestie, vertue et charité. Il ne devait être ni avare, ni méprisant, ni alcoolique... et se conduire "honnêtement" avec les femmes. Il était tenu au secret professionnel à l'instar du serment formulé par Hippocrate quatorze siècles plus tôt. Contrairement à la pratique contemporaine, un médecin ne devait en aucun cas pronostiquer la mort d'un patient, quelque soit ses certitudes. Harcelé par les multiples questions d'un malade ou de sa famille, il devait garder son calme et répondre avec clarté et précision. Les prérogatives du

malade étaient telles que s'il souhaitait consulter un autre praticien, le médecin de la musicothérapie: "C'est un soin de l'âme, comme les drogues soignent le corps malade", soutient-il.

L'Islam a aussi encouragé la psychothérapie. Médecin et philosophe du Xe siècle, Al-Razi formule une distinction explicite entre maladies physiques et mentales. Il alla même jusqu'à recommander à ses collègues de recréer le cadre de vie du patient pour favoriser la guérison. Au XIe siècle, Ibn Biltan inventa la musicothérapie: "C'est un soin de l'âme, comme les drogues soignent le corps malade", soutient-il.

Compétition et défis scientifiques oblige, les médecins se sont peu à peu spécialisés. Anatomie et chirurgie apparaissent alors comme les branches les plus développées. Des découvertes archéologiques attestent l'existence d'instruments chirurgicaux des VIIIe siècle. Au début du Xe siècle, le chirurgien Abul Qasim Al-Zahravi rédige plusieurs traités sur sa spécialité, dont certains seront traduits en latin puis en français et en anglais. Il dresse notamment une liste impressionnante de points de sutures avec leurs propriétés spécifiques. Il met en garde contre les amputations au dessus du genou ou du coude. On lui doit encore l'identification des paralysies dues aux blessures de la

colonne vertébrale ainsi que la description de plus de 200 instruments chirurgicaux, dont nombre ont servi de modèles à ceux d'aujourd'hui.

## Minute par minute

Au XIIIe siècle, d'autres découvertes importantes enrichissent la médecine. Le Syrien Ibn Al Nafis, installé au Caire met en évidence la circulation sanguine dans les poumons, plus de 350 ans avant William Harvey. Son contemporain, Ibn Al-Quff, signe lui un texte remarquable, dans lequel il décrit le développement de l'embryon et révèle ses expérimentations pour prédir le sexe du foetus. Al Razi, pour sa part fut sans doute l'un des médecins les plus originaux de tout le Moyen Âge. On lui doit plus de 300 ouvrages traitant de la médecine, de la pharmacopée et de la chimie. C'est lui qui identifie et différencie définitivement les symptomatologies respectives de la rougeole et de la petite vérole.

Mais c'est sans doute dans le domaine du traitement des malades de l'œil que la médecine arabe fut la plus riche. Elle domine cette spécialité jusqu'à la fin du Moyen Âge. Hunayn écrit ainsi plus de dix traités d'ophtalmologie, considérés comme les premiers manuels systématiques d'anatomie de l'œil, dotés d'une terminologie et de définitions organiques. Plus extraordinaire encore sont les travaux de l'Iraquin Ammar Al-Mawsili. Il consacrera notamment une étude à l'opération de la cataracte, indiquant les instruments chirurgicaux utilisés et décrivant l'intervention elle-même, minute par minute.

Alain Renon.

Sommet de l'OTAN sur les armes nucléaires tactiques

## Réduire et non supprimer

Surmontant des divisions qui risquaient de faire capoter leur neuvième sommet, les 16 pays de l'OTAN ont passé mardi à Bruxelles «un accord de principes» qualifié de «profond et complet» par les deux partenaires.

Le compromis, qui fait de ce sommet un succès majeur pour l'OTAN, s'est dégagé dans la nuit de lundi à mardi après des heures de discussions acharnées entre les

chefs d'Etat et les gouvernements de l'alliance Atlantique. Son approbation était suspendue à la réussite des discussions sur les SNF, nœud gordien que les alliés n'avaient pas réussi à trancher depuis deux ans.

Sur la question cruciale d'une élimination totale des SNF, la fameuse «troisième option zéro» n'a toujours pas obtenu l'assentiment des Britanniques, des Américains ni des Français. Le sujet n'est, d'ailleurs même pas évoqué dans le texte du «concept global».

Les 16 pays ont conclu un accord de principe malgré une réserve de la Grande Bretagne sur le fait que «la troisième option zéro» n'ait pas été explicitement écartée. Outre la réduction des SNF, la résolution adoptée porte sur le succès du lance fusée sol-sol de 110 mètres de portée, dont 88 sont déployées par l'OTAN.

La modernisation des SNF faisait également partie des sujets ultra-sensibles, ayant longtemps opposé les Etats-Unis et la RFA. La concrétisation de l'accord signé avant hier à Bruxelles dépend désormais des conclusions des négociations de Vienne sur le désarmement conventionnel. (D'après agences).

## Théâtre au CCR Kiss me Kate

Du Shakespeare, un orchestre, du théâtre dans le théâtre: la compagnie royale d'art dramatique présente ce soir la première des quatre représentations de «Kiss me Kate» qu'elle donne au centre culturel royal. Une comédie signée Sam et Bella Spewack pour l'intrigue et Cole Porter pour la partition.

Tout commence, plutôt mal, à la fin d'une répétition de la «Médiévale approuvée» de Shakespeare et quelques minutes seulement avant la générale. Le temps pour le metteur en scène et l'actrice principale, couple divorcé, d'échanger quelques propos fleuris, puis d'être sur le point de se réconcilier. Manque de chance, un malencontreux bouquet de fleurs (justement), accompagné d'un billet doux et adressé par l'ex-époux à une autre artiste de la troupe, a juste le temps d'être, par erreur, offert à l'ex-épouse pour relancer la querelle.

Mise en scène par Vanessa Patroni et Katherine Moukha, respectivement directrice et codirectrice de la compagnie royale de théâtre (CRT), «Kiss me Kate» est montée pour la première fois en Jordanie. Dans les règles de l'art, avec un orchestre de 15 musiciens... et une distribution franchement internationale. Se cloîtront, s'aimeront, se déchireront, rire joueront des Britanniques, des Américains, des Français et un Canadien.



Tous amateurs et la plupart enseignants.

Neuvième spectacle présenté par la CRT depuis sa création, il y a cinq ans, «Kiss me Kate» est donné au profit de l'Institut de Terre Sainte pour les sourds, installé à Salt, et qui fêtera cette année son 25e anniversaire.

*Kiss me Kate*, les 1er, 3, 4, et 5 juin à 20h00, au centre culturel royal.

Prix des places: 3 dinars.

Pétra, Aqaba, Wadi Rum

## Premier guide en français

Le premier guide touristique en français sur la Jordanie sera mis en vente dès la deuxième semaine de juin. D'une soixantaine de pages, il sera consacré au site archéologique de Pétra et au port d'Aqaba, la dernière née des bouches Al-Kutub. Il comprend également deux pages sur le désert du Wadi Rum.

Réalisé par les éditions Al-Kutub, le fascicule en français se déroule avec l'image des guides déjà publiés en arabe et en anglais.

Format poche comme ces prédecesseurs, mais avec une couverture manne foncée, il a été conçu pour être utilisé au cours des visites touristiques des trois régions concernées, explique la directrice de la collection, Ellen Khouri. «C'est un précis d'archéologie et d'histoire, non un répertoire des hôtels ou des res-

taurants», précise-t-elle.

Principalement consacrée à la ville rose de Pétra et au port d'Aqaba, la dernière née des bouches Al-Kutub, comporte également deux pages sur le désert du Wadi Rum. «Nous couvrons ainsi le sud du pays, poursuit Ellen Khouri. Si l'essai est concluant, nous lancerons deux autres guides, en français, sur les autres régions».

Tiré dans un premier temps à cinq mille exemplaires, «Pétra, Aqaba, Wadi Rum», sera mis en vente au prix de deux dinars et disponible dès le 11 juin dans toutes les librairies des hôtels jordaniens, les bibliothèques des universités et les agences de tourismes.

Un nouveau restaurant spécialisé dans la cuisine française a ouvert ses portes et fourneaux le 23 mai à Amman, près du sixième cercle.

«The Three Horses», comme son nom ne l'indique pas, propose notamment une fondue bourguignonne au prix de cinq dinars et demi par personne. On peut également, et plus volontiers pendant les grosses chaleurs, s'y faire servir un excellent «steak Diana» (on va poivre) flamé au cognac pour deux dinars. La viande est tendre, la cuisson réussie et le service irréprochable... si ce n'est un peu long. Vous craquerez peut-être pour un Chahil ou un Saint-Emilion. A condition d'avoir garni le portefeuille: il vous en coûtera en effet entre onze et quatorze dinars. La décoration de la petite salle du restaurant (une trentaine de convives) est plutôt chaleureuse, hésitant entre le châlis suisse et le relais de diligences. Sachez encore que le trio qui s'est lancé dans l'aventure est composé d'un chef cuisinier égyptien et de deux maîtres d'hôtel syrien et jordanien. Le premier a déjà une longue expérience de la cuisine française, dont il était chargé au Shirotan Hôtel du Caire. Le second a fait son apprentissage au Méridien et au Shams Palace de Damas. Le dernier a successivement travaillé au Razi à Irbid puis à Shmeisani, avant de relever le défi lancé par le propriétaire du lieu, Nabil Samir Biedas.

The Three Horses, sixième cercle. Ouvert tous les jours de midi à minuit. Tél: 825 392. Prendre la direction de l'Amman en venant du rond-point, puis première à gauche après l'hôtel. Le restaurant se trouve sur la droite, juste après le premier carrefour.



# Can life be prolonged?

By David Holzman

CLIVE McCay essentially starved his rats. The nutritionist gave his laboratory rodents only 60 per cent of the calories they would have consumed if left to their own devices. The result: The maximum life span of the rats was increased by 80 per cent — what would be the equivalent of the oldest human living about 180 years.

McCay's ground-breaking experiments at Cornell University were published in 1935, and their results have been re-affirmed time and again. Humans do not live beyond the age of about 110. Those legends about the ancient yogurt eaters of the Georgian Soviet Socialist Republic are just that, legends, says Dr. Roy L. Walford, a leader in research on the aging process — and the laboratory rodents have their own maximum life span. Only McCay's dietary restriction has breached that maximum limit for rodents.

Why does food restriction prolong life? Gerontologists, those who study aging, agree that an answer might well solve the riddle of why humans age. But like the elderly themselves, the biology of aging has been one of the most neglected corners of the life sciences. "Dietary restriction was discovered in the early '30s, and over 50 years later we don't know how it works," says Richard G. Cutler of the National Institute on Aging.

"The field has only now progressed to the point where the testing of theories has become more important than describing observations, which is always a sign of the maturation of a scientific field," says Dr. Leonard Hayflick of the Centre for Gerontological Studies at the University of Florida. But, he adds pointedly, "None of the theories that have been put forth have been proven to the satisfaction of the majority."

Gerontology got moving in the mid-1970s. But even now, the budget of the National Institute on Aging represents only 2 per cent of spending by the National Institutes of Health, or little more than one tenth of that of the National Cancer Institute.

Fundamental research on aging is "indeed neglected and relatively underfunded," says Dr. Robert N. Butler, chief of geriatrics at

New York City's Mount Sinai Hospital. "It is potentially the most economic research because instead of having to pick off one disease at a time we could be dealing with a fundamental change in the integrity of the entire biological system."

He offers the example of finding "ways to maintain the immune system in the face of aging."

If these efforts were successful, "we would be gaining a foothold that would protect the body against a whole range of diseases."

There are more fundamental problems besides limited funds. The complexity of the aging process makes it a hard experimental nut to crack. For gerontologists, distinguishing between fundamental causes and the diseases that are secondary or tertiary to aging is difficult.

In fact, it is a little like peeling an onion. Many of the major theories about why we age — there are 10 by one gerontologist's count — are themselves probably a step or two removed from root causes, causes that are hidden from view by disease or degeneration.

#### Causes for aging

To confuse matters more, most researchers now think there are a number of root causes of aging.

In fact, the whole phenomenon may be largely misunderstood.

"There may be no such thing as primary aging," says physiologist Edward J. Masoro Jr. of the University of Texas at San Antonio.

"When you are dealing with a whole animal you are dealing with subtle and complex interactions. It doesn't take much derangement for (bad interactions) and then soon, secondary events occur that lead to what we call aging. A small but growing number of people feel that way."

Researchers consider food restriction to be one of the most exciting techniques for probing theories of aging. It not only prolongs the lives of experimental rodents, it keeps them physiologically young well past the time when their fully fed counterparts have become the codgers of the laboratory.

Old diet-restricted rodents have low cholesterol levels, low blood pressure and a lower incidence of farsightedness and cataracts. They can also run mazes like youngsters.

Similarly, food-restricted rats suffer less from the diseases of aging. Cancer and kidney disease develop later in life. Says Masoro: "Food restriction keeps rats young in so many ways that one has to suspect it has retarded the aging process at its most fundamental level."

"If we could understand how one intervention slows all these processes we would have a much better idea of what causes aging," says Dr. Evan C. Hadley, chief of the geriatrics branch at the National Institute of Aging.

Though food restriction dates back as theory to the early part of the century, it was not until 1977 that the late George Sacher of Oak Ridge National Laboratory asked how, precisely, food restriction was related to the length of life.

Sacher knew that the life span of cold-blooded animals such as fish could be tripled and quadrupled by restricting their diets and lowering their metabolic rates, which is done by lowering water temperature.

Examining the literature, Sacher found that in laboratory rodents, each gram of tissue seemed to have a lifetime calorie quota. This was something like saying that a car would expire once it had burned, say, 2 gallons of gas for every pound it weighed. The calorie quota was identical in different rodents regardless of the process.

From this, Sacher offered the theory that food restriction prolonged life and slowed aging by increasing metabolic efficiency, just as one might expect frequent tune-ups to keep a car running more efficiently and make it last longer.

The notion that lower metabolic rate meant longer life implied that burning energy somehow results in damage to the body. In 1981, Denham Harman of the University of Nebraska medical school explained how this might happen when he linked metabolic rate to his free-radical theory of aging.

The free-radical theory holds that aging is the result of accumulated damage to crucial molecules, membranes and cells of the body. The damage is most severe in the DNA, the blueprint molecules of life.

The cause of the damage is thought to be free radicals, which Walford, of the University

of California at Los Angeles, calls "fragments of molecules that have become unstuck." As such, they are so unstable that they tend to react with the first molecule they encounter, damaging or destroying it in the process.

Aging, the theory holds, is caused by the gradual accumulation of such damage. Food restriction made the rats burn energy more efficiently, said Harman, and that meant a proportional reduction in the damage from cellular combustion.

But Sacher's restriction retarded the theory by reducing metabolic rate is controversial. Says Masoro: "Everyone wanted to believe it, because it made such intuitive sense, but there was something fundamentally wrong."

#### Contradictions

Measuring metabolic rate in two ways, Masoro came up with results that contradicted Sacher's findings. Restricted animals burned energy as intensely as their fully fed counterparts, Masoro found. Also, since they lived much longer, their tissues used from 25 per cent to 45 per cent more calories over a lifetime.

This suggested that food restriction lowered the damage from metabolism. Masoro suggests that, like certain antismog devices, food restriction alters the chemistry of cellular combustion, reducing the free-radical load in the process.

Walford insists that "metabolic rate or something like that could be very important. The thing that has the effect on life span is lower energy intake." Although food-restricted animals are quite skinny, Walford points out that their brains do not shrink and "could be getting by with fewer calories per gram per day." But right now, he admits, he has no evidence to contradict Masoro.

Complicating the damage theory further, food restriction appears to help the body defend itself against free radicals. Two mechanisms protect against molecular damage. One involves free-radical scavengers — chemicals the body produces that neutralise free radicals the way catalytic converters neutralise certain automotive pollutants. The second mechanism is DNA repair. Both systems seem to work more efficiently in food-restricted animals.

In fact, middle-aged food-restricted rats outproduce their fully fed counterparts in two of the free-radical scavengers, reports Arlan C. Richardson, an Illinois State University chemist. "If you believe the free-radical theory of aging, maybe somehow dietary restriction causes these two genes to be turned on higher."

Nonetheless, no one has proved the free-radical theory. Experiments in which free-radical scavengers have been fed to rodents have failed to extend maximum life spans. But advocates of the theory defend it from this attack, claiming that the free-radical scavengers may have never reached the cellular combustion chambers, called the mitochondria, where the free radicals probably do the most damage.

Food restriction also has remarkable effects on the immune system. In one set of experiments, white blood cells that Walford and Richard H. Weintraub, also of UCLA, took from 16-month-old food-restricted mice attacked foreign materials with the vigor of those of fully fed mice 6 to 8 months old.

#### Immune systems

The immune systems of food-restricted animals seem to function more efficiently. Walford and Weintraub found that restricted animals maintain smaller reserves of so-called natural killer cells but that these cells multiply nearly 50 per cent faster to meet attack from invading microbes.

As with the free-radical theory, however, no one has proved that the decline of the immune system causes aging.

In yet another area of investigation, Dr. Robert A. Good of All Children's Hospital in St. Petersburg, Fla., has found that food restriction increases the life span of cells lining the gut, the spleen and the thymus gland, a kingpin of the immune system. (The gut lining is replaced normally every few days). In related investigations, Good has found that food restriction alters the levels of many different chemicals produced in the body.

Clearly, the influence of food restriction is pervasive. But aside from theories about free-radicals generated by cellular combustion, there is no firm speculation as to how food restriction may influence so many processes.

An answer might be found in the hormones. Some scientists believe that the pace of aging, like development and maturation, might be genetically programmed.



"Walford is so confident food restriction affects life span for all species, all the way to the highest of the primates, that he has restricted his own diet for about three years. The regime

has just been published in a how-to book that outlines the scientific basis for betting that food restriction will extend human life span. It's called 'The 120-Year Diet.'"

rammed. Researchers can only guess where the programme is located. One candidate for the mechanism of executing the programme is through the hormones. Says Illinois State's Richardson: "I can't see any mechanism except for may be hormonal control."

Walford and Good find this notion appealing, and Good has detailed investigations underway. Caleb Finch of the University of Southern California finds that food restriction retards aging of the reproductive system, which is largely under hormonal control. Walford points out that the immune system could just as likely control again of other systems, or that the hormonal and immune systems might work together to control such controls.

The Aging Institute has recently established a colony of food-restricted primates and hopes within five years to have evidence on whether diet restriction affects the life span in other animals. Walford is not waiting for their results. He is so confident food restriction affects life span for all species, all the way to the highest of the primates, that he has restricted his own diet for about three years. The regime has just been published in a how-to book that outlines the scientific basis for betting that food restriction will extend human life span. It's called "The 120-Year Diet."

David Holzman writes for *Insight*, a U.S. weekly magazine.

# "From the first greeting it was a first class flight..."

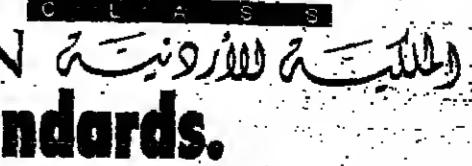


## My ticket was business class.

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## Foreigners invest \$65 billion in United States during 1988

WASHINGTON (AP) — Foreign investors spent \$65 billion to acquire or establish U.S. businesses last year, up sharply from the \$40.3 billion spent in 1987, the government reported Tuesday.

The U.S. Commerce Department attributed the 61.3 per cent increase in spending last year over the 1987 level to a surge in large transactions, with the number of investments worth \$1 billion doubling from six to 12 in 1988.

Those 12 investments accounted for 80 per cent of the increase in spending last year.

The \$65 billion in outlays included \$60 billion spent to acquire existing U.S. businesses and \$5 billion to establish new operations. Some \$16.4 billion of the money was spent by foreign direct investors, while \$48.6 billion was spent by U.S. affiliates of foreign companies.

The department said several factors have made foreign investment in the United States attractive in recent years, including strong U.S. economic growth which made target companies potentially more profitable, a

large consumer market, political stability and a strong technology.

In addition, the wave of corporate restructuring in the United States provided foreigners with investment opportunities and the decline of the dollar against foreign currencies probably led some firms to shift operations to the United States, the department said.

By contrast, U.S. companies were the biggest investors in Japan, while the United States was the top destination for Japanese investment overseas last year, finance ministry officials in Japan said Wednesday.

Investment by foreign companies in Japan jumped sharply last year, and foreign investment by Japanese companies also hit a record high, they said.

Despite the high yen, which makes investing in Japan expensive, foreign companies increased their investment in Japan by 46.5 per cent to \$3.24 billion during the fiscal year ended March 31.

U.S. companies accounted for 54.7 per cent of the total, said a report released Wednesday by the Japanese finance ministry.

U.S. investment in Japan jumped 89.1 per cent over the previous year to total \$1.77 bil-

lion, the report said.

During the same period, Japan's direct overseas investment hit a record high for the fifth year in a row, jumping 40.9 per cent in fiscal 1988 over the previous year to \$47.02 billion, a ministry official said, citing a report released Tuesday.

The United States attracted the most direct investment from Japanese companies — \$21.7 billion in fiscal 1988, up 47.6 per cent from the previous year.

A total of \$3.95 billion from Japan went to Britain during the period, up 60 per cent, while Japanese investments in the Netherlands nearly tripled to \$2.39 billion, the report said.

Ministry officials attributed the increase in Japanese direct investment overseas to expansion of overseas production by Japanese manufacturers and of overseas activities by financial and real estate companies.

The report counted as direct overseas investment any investment of more than 10 per cent in a foreign company. Investment in overseas branches and expansion of Japanese subsidiaries in foreign countries, the report said.

## Jordan receives financial support

JEDDAH, Saudi Arabia (AP) — Kuwait, Oman and Iraq to grant Jordan an aid of \$35 million.

Shalaan said Kuwait paid Jordan \$40 million and provided it with crude oil worth another \$40 million. Oman and Iraq each paid \$20 million with Iraq promising \$30 million more by the end of the year.

Abu Shakour Shalaan, director of the Middle East department of the IMF, told the Saudi Arabian newspaper Asharq Al Awsat that the United States also has promised

Asked about reports that Jordan had sold a third of its gold reserves, he said: "Selling gold against hard currency

is not harmful, for frozen gold reserves give no interest while hard currencies can give plenty if well exploited."

Shalaan said: "The real essence of the Jordanian economic difficulty was in rising individual and government consumption in excess of national income."

This, he said, represented reduced savings which was a "negative and dangerous" development.

He also referred to the lure of the oil-rich Arab countries to fulfil financial assistance pledges to Jordan at the Baghdad Arab summit in 1978. Some reduced their contributions and others cancelled them, with only Saudi Arabia fulfilling its commitments, he said.

Jordan was promised an annual aid of \$1.2 billion for a 10-year period, which ended at the end of last year.

## ECONOMIC NEWS BRIEFS

### Jordan to balance trade with Brazil

AMMAN (R) — Jordan and Brazil are planning a counter-trade deal to reduce Jordan's massive trade gap with the South American giant, a Brazilian embassy source said Wednesday. He said they would soon sign a \$100 million agreement under which Jordanian private-sector imports of iron, timber, paper and food could be bartered for exports by the Jordan Potash Company. The government has a majority stake in the company. Jordanian exports to Brazil last year, mainly potash, were worth \$430,000. They were dwarfed by imports worth \$68 million. But potash exports could now soar because terms under the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT) had been agreed for the protocol with Brazil, the source said. Brazil will accord Jordan most favoured nation status and a five per cent discount on tariffs. Brazil buys 2.3 million tonnes of potash annually while Jordan produces 1.3 million tonnes.

### S. Korea considers doubling oil stocks

SEOUL (AP) — The government plans to nearly double its emergency oil stockpiles to more than 70 million barrels by the mid-1990s in view of South Korea's growing oil use, officials have said. The officials at the energy and resources ministry said the project, still under study, would require about \$1.5 billion to build storage facilities and buy oil. The project also is intended to guard against price hikes from another international oil supply crunch. South Korea must import all of its oil. It plans to import 260 million barrels of crude oil this year. The officials said the present reserve of 38 million barrels of crude oil was based on the country's 60-day needs at a daily rate of 500,000 barrels, the consumption level in the early 1980s. They said the daily need now stands at 720,000 barrels and is expected to rise to 1.3 million barrels by the mid-1990s as the economy grows. The government plans to finance the project with funds from local refineries.

### Bulgaria, Iran sign \$200m deal

NICOSIA (R) — Iran and Bulgaria signed a series of economic agreements including a deal worth \$200 million, the Iranian news agency IRNA reported Wednesday. It quoted Bulgarian Foreign Trade Minister Hristo Hristov as saying the \$200 million deal was between two Iranian and Bulgarian companies but did not elaborate. He added that Bulgaria was ready to help modernise Iran's defence industry.

### Irish Futures and Options Exchange opens

DUBLIN (R) — Prime Minister Charles Haughey has opened the Irish Futures and Options Exchange (IFOX). Dublin's first

million," he said.

Trading has begun in three futures contracts — 20-year Irish gilts, an interest rate future based on the three-month Dublin inter bank-rate (DIBOR) and a future on the Irish punt/dollar rate.

Bradley said: "Irish companies have to date had no Irish pound way to hedge their rates before. This is a screen-based system and the players can trade very efficiently and effectively. Its costs are low too."

IFOX, whose members include all Ireland's chief financial players like Allied Irish Banks and the Bank of Ireland, is the country's first new exchange since the Dublin Stock Market was founded in 1799.

### AMMAN EXCHANGE RATES

Wednesday, May 31, 1989  
Central Bank official rates

	Buy	Sell
U.S. dollar	566.4	572.4
Pound Sterling	889.9	898.8
Deutschmark	284.5	287.3
Swiss franc	327.0	330.3

French franc 84.0 84.8

Japanese yen (for 100) 397.0 401.0

Dutch guilder 252.5 255.0

Swedish crown 84.6 85.4

Italian lira 39.3 39.7

Belgian franc (for 100) 136.0 137.4

### DON EXCHANGE RATES

LONDON (R) — Following are the buying and selling rates for leading world currencies and gold against the dollar at midday on the London foreign exchange and bullion markets Wednesday.

One Sterling	1.5732/42	U.S. dollars
One U.S. dollar	1.2050/50	Canadian dollar
	1.9855/65	Deutsche marks
	2.2385/95	Dutch guilders
	1.7130/40	Swiss francs
	41.58/61	Belgian francs
	6.7350/400	French francs
	1440/1441	Italian lire
	142.57/67	Japanese yen
	6.6857/925	Swedish crowns
	7.1700/75	Norwegian crowns
	7.7325/75	Danish crowns
One ounce of gold	364.00/364.50	U.S. dollars

Deutsche marks 252.5 255.0

Dutch guilders 84.6 85.4

Swiss francs 39.3 39.7

Belgian francs 136.0 137.4

### ANGLICAN CHURCH IN AMMAN

Services this Sunday  
8 a.m. Holy Communion  
And 6 p.m. confirmation with Bishop Elia Khoury

Chaplain: Revd William Taylor, tel: 628543

### FOR SALE

1978 Mercedes 200, like new, duty free, best offer.  
On display in the parking lot of Safeway supermarket from 4-6 p.m. today.

Call before 2 p.m. Irbid 271100/3231

### FOR SALE

By method of sealed bids, two (2) unserviceable cars. The above cars are available for inspection and bidding at the American Embassy Motor Pool, near the 3rd Circle, behind YWCA, on Thursday and Sunday July 1 and 4, 1989.

Hours are: 15:00 p.m. to 16:00 p.m. each day.  
Refundable 20% cash deposit required on all bids.

### HOUSE (VILLA) FOR RENT

A separate house surrounded with garden, garage, condition, central heating, 3 bedrooms, 2 salons, 2 baths, carpet and curtains.  
Location near 7th Circle and Automobile Club and American School, Amman.

Call 815247 or Zerka telephone 986086 & 986086. JD 2,300

SYDNEY — The All Ordinaries index was 13.3 lower at 1,528.8 after a combination of negative economic indications.

TOKYO — Prices closed up in a late boost of index-linked buying by investment trusts. The Nikkei index closed up 189.80 at 34,266.75 after falling 83.94 points Tuesday.

HONG KONG — The Hang Seng index ended 61.59 points down at 2,743.87 as uncertainty over political events in China continued.

SINGAPORE — The Straits Times industrial index edged up 1.07 to 1,279.24 in thin trading.

BOMBAY — Share prices recovered to close mixed in thin trading on institutional support, after falling in the last two days. End-of-account considerations and the approach of the monsoon season kept investors on the sidelines. Colgate gained 6.25 rupees to 325 and Associated Cement four to 318.

FRANKFURT — Shares hit new highs for the year, for the second day in early trading. Undaunted by a fit of mid-session profit-taking, they closed higher across the board. The DAX index closed up 4.12 at 1,407.29.

ZURICH — Shares closed little changed. Trading slowed down after a firm opening and prices fell slightly amid renewed concern about possible European interest rate rises. The all-share index eased 0.2 to 1,005.3.

PARIS — Shares were of their early lows by midday but trading was thin, with most operators sidelined because of concerns about possible higher interest rates.

LONDON — Prices in late trading languished near the day's lows as sterling's losses against the mark highlighted concerns over the possibility of an imminent further rise in 14 per cent U.K. base rates. At 1515 GMT the FTSE index was down 16.6 at 2,113.4.

NEW YORK — Stocks were mixed in morning trading and moving in a narrow range, with traders awaiting U.S. jobs data due Friday. The Dow was little changed at 2,776.

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to be inaugurated under the patronage of H.E. Minister of Public Works.

Amman, Amra Hotel, June 1-4, 1989.

An excellent opportunity to meet with the experts in the world of construction and building materials.

For further information, please contact the fair organisers:

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Tel. 689025 & 810944.

**ANNOUNCEMENT TO POLES**  
The Polish citizens, holders of the Polish passports residents or on temporary stay in Jordan could vote in the elections to the Polish Parliament on June 4th, 1988, at the Polish Embassy, 1st Circle, Jahal Amman, between 6 a.m. - 10 p.m.

**FOR SALE**  
Mitsubishi Colt, 1984, 1500 c.c., 69,500 km, yellow plates.

Call: Irbid 295111, ext. 2644

**FOR SALE**  
1987 Mitsubishi Lancer GLX. 9,700 km. AC/Auto/AM/FM cassette . Duty unpaid.  
Asking - JD 2,500.

Call 643361 Monday to Thursday

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CLIV arived gave 60 per cent woul their The rats - w of the Mi perit were result time live 1 Thos yog Sovi that. Wall the labo own McC brea rods. W long wha ans v elde agir neg enc disc ove how Cu on res tes mo ob sig tit Ha tol fo ly ha pr m bu ce In th al is ly N

## Mike Schmidt quits

PHILADELPHIA (AP) — In the end, Mike Schmidt fooled a lot of people.

Many said he lacked emotion. But it was emotion that prompted Schmidt to quit professional baseball, in tears Monday.

He was embarrassed by his performance in this, its 17th season with the Philadelphia Phillies.

He's more than the fans, couldn't accept as he put it "the deterioration" of my skills."

"I looked for signs that would enable me to continue, but they weren't there," he said.

Emotionally, Schmidt couldn't accept less than the skills that have made him an almost-certain Hall of Famer.

It's true, he rarely tossed a bat or a helmet in anger. He never showed up an umpire. He seemed to accept victory and defeat with equal grace. It made fans angry. They felt he didn't care.

Maybe it's corny, but Schmidt felt that all he owed was performance. He hated the word "leadership."

He cringed when Phillies president Bill Giles once described him as "moody and lacking the leadership." Giles felt Schmidt owed the club.

"A .293 average, 35 home runs and 113 RBIs is all I owe this club," he snapped after Giles' outburst in 1987.

If the players in this clubhouse would watch how I start preparing for a (night) game, follow me around from 2 p.m. until game time, they see my leadership," Schmidt said.

About some things, Schmidt surprised everyone.

There was the year he criticised the way manager Paul Owens ran the club. He not only complained, but suggested the way the ship should be run.

Then, there was the time he told a Montreal writer that Philadelphia fans were the worst in baseball.

He realised that he stuck his foot in his mouth. When the club

came home, Schmidt appeared for infield practice wearing a wig. The fans laughed. He laughed and waved to them. The incident was forgotten.

This spring in Florida, he told a Tampa writer that Philadelphia baseball writers hoped he would fail in his comeback from major shoulder surgery.

He said the writers ate too many hoagies and like the cynical late W.C. Fields. The next day he apologised.

Oh yes, he once suggested that the Phillies clean up the tunnel leading to the dugout and the dugout. He said it smelled like cat waste.

Schmidt cared about a lot of things. He sometimes said it the wrong way.

Schmidt, who turns 40 in September, insisted he quit because he no longer can get the job done. The feeling persists that his problem was more physical than mental.

Since the shoulder injury that disabled him Aug. 12, 1988, and prompted arthroscopic surgery in September, he appeared to loose power at bat and his swing appeared slower.

In the field, he missed balls he once could handle with ease. He followed the team in errors with eight before Monday night's game at San Diego.

He certainly no longer had the powerful arm in throwing the ball from third base.

Schmidt had just two hits in his last 41 at-bats. He was hitting .203 with six home runs and 28 RBIs. He made costly errors in the club's last two games at San Francisco.

He knew when to throw in the towel.

Schmidt could be described as a complex person, but there was nothing complex about his performance on a baseball field.

He should be remembered as:

— the third baseman who joined Stan Musial and Roy Campanella as the only players ever to

hit three MVP awards.

## SPORTS IN BRIEF

### European sports ministers meet

REYKJAVIK (AP) — Sports ministers from throughout Western Europe met Wednesday to discuss how to combat apartheid, hooliganism and drugs, with Britain leading the battle on the drugs issue and facing sharp attacks on the other two. The two-day session will seek to coordinate action on those three issues among the 23 nations in the Council of Europe and to produce agreements that can be used as international models. The most hotly contested issue at the conference in the Icelandic capital is expected to be apartheid, with the Scandinavian nations arguing Britain, France, West Germany and other nations are re-establishing sporting links with South Africa. The Scandinavians are seeking approval of a text expressing concern "that many national and international sports bodies have continued sports contacts with countries practicing apartheid and other discriminatory practices."

### Auriol hits rock, Biasion takes lead

KAMENA VOURLA, Greece (R) — Italian world champion Massimo Biasion took the lead in the Acropolis rally Tuesday after his team-mate Didier Auriol of France hit a rock and damaged a rear wheel of his Lancia. Until the mishap, Auriol, leader after Monday's second leg, had a one minute 44 seconds advantage. But on the 23rd special stage, above the village of Zalissa, Auriol pushed too hard, sliding sideways into the rock and damaging his right rear wheel. He managed to finish the stage, but lost almost two minutes and his lead. With Wednesday's final leg over 13 special stages remaining, Biasion leads the Frenchman.

### FORECAST FOR THURSDAY, JUNE 1, 1989

## YOUR DAILY HOROSCOPE

by Thomas Pieron, Astrologer, Carroll Righter Institute

**GENERAL TENDENCIES:** It is a great day to reorganize and sort matters out. Feelings are on the surface, and this prompts "out of the ordinary" moods. Romantic connections focus on the unusual, and sensational.

**ARIES** (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19) Do something "together" with a special friend. The economic picture brightens. If you receive a confusing message, don't reply.

**TAURUS** (Apr. 20 to May 20) You seek more independence and private time. Listen to your day-dreams, as they are part of your intuition.

**GEMINI** (May 21 to June 21) Accepting a social invitation is uplifting. Focus on "expanding your horizons and camaraderie. Night-time dreams carry a message.

**MOON CHILDREN** (June 22 to Jul. 21) Economic picture appears brighter. It is advantageous to continue to clamp down on expenses. Extend congratulations to a pal.

**LEO** (Jul. 22 to Aug. 21) It is a good time to address issues. Where are you in career objectives? What is needed to go forward?

**VIRGO** (Aug. 22 to Sept. 22) You are slow to gather your forces and

approach a prospective mate. Plan a rendezvous surrounding a common interest.

**LIBRA** (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) An attitude adjustment may be needed if you are seeking to get ideas across to siblings. Telling on their level will do wonders.

**SCORPIO** (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) You seek more independence and private time. Listen to your day-dreams, as they are part of your intuition.

**PISCES** (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20) Do something to a tine. Tie up loose ends. Connect with elements of pleasure. Be confident of your ability to perform difficult tasks.

**SAGITTARIUS** (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) Your memory may not be cooperative today. Mental rest and relaxation are recommended. You can find a good guy on hard goods.

**CAPRICORN** (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20) Requiring a relationship may require a stronger commitment. Borderlines may be tested.

**AQUARIUS** (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19) You may adjust to change more easily as your recent stubborn streak changes. Now, live it up a little, relax and avoid drudgery.

**PISCES** (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20) Do something to a tine. Tie up loose ends. Connect with elements of pleasure. Be confident of your ability to perform difficult tasks.

**GEMINI** (May 21 to June 21) Accepting a social invitation is uplifting. Focus on "expanding your horizons and camaraderie. Night-time dreams carry a message.

**MOON CHILDREN** (June 22 to Jul. 21) Economic picture appears brighter. It is advantageous to continue to clamp down on expenses. Extend congratulations to a pal.

**LEO** (Jul. 22 to Aug. 21) Personal energy is high. You daydream about someone you admire. Intuitive ideas will work well when applied to career objectives.

**VIRGO** (Aug. 22 to Sept. 22) Get ready for action. Get on the good

## French Open Second Round

## Sabatini moves into 3rd round

PARIS (AP) — Gabriela Sabatini, edging closer to a confrontation with defending champion Steffi Graf, became the first player to reach the third round of the French Open Wednesday, sweeping past Alexia Dechaume of France 6-3, 6-1.

The second-seeded Argentine was not at her peak on the centre court at Roland Garros but was still too strong for an opponent equipped with dangerous groundstrokes but lacking mobility and experience.

Meanwhile, Andre Agassi is trying not to think about becoming a hero by achieving what three generations of American players before him have failed to achieve — winning the men's title here.

"I would be lying if I said I didn't feel it," Agassi, the no. 5 seed, said when asked about the expectations of him becoming the first American man since Tony

Trabert 34 years ago to win the title at Roland Garros.

The 19-year-old American, with trademark shoulder-length hair, denim shorts and multi-coloured tennis shoes, looked anything but a loser in his first-round match Tuesday, drawing plaudits of fans to see him outwit Johan Carlsson of Sweden, 6-3, 6-4, 6-1.

Graf's opposite number for the men's title, Ivan Lendl, began his quest for a fourth French crown by defeating Patrick Kuhnen of West Germany 7-6, 6-3, 6-1.

Former champion Hana Mandlikova, the 14th seed, joined Zvereva on the casualty list when she was beaten 6-7 (4-7), 6-1, 6-4 by a Brazilian teenager she had

never heard of, Andrea Vieira from San Paolo.

Mandlikova, Czechoslovak-born but now an Australian citizen, was full of praise for her unheralded opponent.

"She is a very good player," said Mandlikova, who won the French title in 1981. "She has a good career ahead of her."

Mandlikova, who spent six months out of action last year because of a persistent hamstring injury, said a back problem which forced her to retire in the third round of the Italian Open had cleared up.

"I am looking forward to playing on grass at Wimbledon because I prefer a faster surface," she added.

## Graf's boyfriend on women's tennis

PARIS (AP) — Steffi Graf may be rich and famous. But her men's-playing boyfriend is broke and unknown and his relationship with the world's no. 1 woman player isn't helping his own career.

"I have to admit that my bank account is in the red because I haven't been winning much lately," said Alexander Mironz, the no. 5 seed, when asked about the expectations of him becoming the first American man since Tony

Montezzo to win the title.

"I like her very much and wouldn't want to do anything to endanger our relationship," he said. "I have been offered wild card entries into tournaments but I have refused them because I want to be my own man."

Although Mironz is clearly proud of his partner's achievements, he doesn't have much time for women's tennis.

"It is not tennis, it is ping pong," he said. "With the exception of a few, the big money the women make is a scandal. Every man has to fight 100 percent in the first round and some of the girls don't even sweat and they make millions."

## GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN  
AND OMAR SHARIF  
© 1989 Tribune Media Services, Inc.

### WEEKLY BRIDGE QUIZ

Q.1—Neither vulnerable, as South you hold:  
♦AK1095 ♦13 ♦876 ♦62  
The bidding has proceeded:  
North East South West  
1♦ 1♦ 1♦ 1♦  
What did you bid now?

Q.2—Both vulnerable, as South you hold:  
♦Q94 ♦AJ7 ♦64 ♦AQJ98  
The bidding has proceeded:  
West North East South  
1♦ 1♦ 1♦ 1♦  
What did you bid now?

Q.3—Both vulnerable, as South you hold:  
♦7 ♦AKOS ♦KQJ102 ♦873  
The bidding has proceeded:  
South West North East  
1♦ 2♦ 2♦ 2♦  
What did you bid now?

Q.4—As South, vulnerable, you hold:  
♦K1095 ♦Q103 ♦K57 ♦K62  
The bidding has proceeded:

### FORECAST FOR FRIDAY, JUNE 2, 1989

## YOUR DAILY HOROSCOPE

by Thomas Pieron, Astrologer, Carroll Righter Institute

**GENERAL TENDENCIES:** Partygoers will be out in force tonight. Get in an early start if you want to beat the crowds. The evening should be cheerful, entertaining and diversified. Buckle up the seat belt!

**ARIES** (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19) Return a kind heart. Use common sense to cut down on waste. Leather freshens up the day. Arranges for pleasant entertainment.

**TAURUS** (Apr. 20 to May 20) Possession of talent qualifies you to get the job done. Promote a better work atmosphere by cheering others along.

**GEMINI** (May 21 to June 21) Knowledge without common sense turns to useless folly. Look for extra sources of income that will improve your lifestyle.

**MOON CHILDREN** (June 22 to Jul. 21) The focus is on feelings. Unattached, you may find yourself in a romantic situation that is getting off to a rocky start.

**PISCES** (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20) Sometimes you give up too soon. Self-imposed limitations can channel your energy down a steady path. Stick to one plan for results.

health track. Do what you enjoy doing. Your goals have your enthusiasm and can produce results.

**LIBRA** (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) Take care of necessities, and then hit the road for some fun. There is a change of pace in how you relate to a romantic partner.

**SCORPIO** (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) Social interests gain momentum. Turning on the charm will get results. A partner seems difficult. Use wit and a smiling face.

**SAGITTARIUS** (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) A new approach to a relationship can help smooth out the bumps. Strike a happy note where home is concerned.

**CAPRICORN** (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20) You find the good in an associate who has a questionable past. Keep hands off of a clandestine relationship. Your sexual level is high.

**AQUARIUS** (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19) Check boredom with entertainment that is different. Look beyond appearances when seeking romantic friendships.

**PISCES** (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20) Personal energy is high. You daydream about someone you admire. Intuitive ideas will work well when applied to career objectives.

**VIRGO** (Aug. 22 to Sept. 22) Get ready for action. Get on the good

WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE, SIR? I THOUGHT YOU WERE IN SUMMER SCHOOL...

I JUST CAME DOWN TO SEE YOU GUYS OFF...

I HOPE YOU HAVE A GOOD TRIP...

AND I HOPE YOU FEEL REAL GUILTY!



BY JOHNNY HART

A PACT BETWEEN TWO PEOPLE WHO LOVE EACH OTHER ALMOST AS MUCH AS THEIR POSSESSIONS

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THE DAILY CROSSWORD

BY HENRY SELTZER

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Yesterday's Puzzle Solved:

ACROSS

## Yeltsin fires broadside at Gorbachev

MOSCOW (AP) — Mikhail Gorbachev's reforms have failed to improve Soviets' lives, and the president has accumulated so much power there is danger of a "new dictatorship," outspoken communist reformer Boris Yeltsin said Wednesday.

Yeltsin, in his first nationally televised address as a member of the new competitively elected Congress, said the 2,250-member body should wrest power from the 20-million-member Communist Party that has ruled the Soviet Union since 1917.

His proposals to radically alter the Soviet power structure, making the party subservient to the Congress of People's Deputies, would require the president to submit to an annual, nationwide referendum on his performance.

Yeltsin, who became a hero to many Soviets by demanding an end to official privilege and a better life for the common people, said the president's campaign to revitalise Soviet society and the economy had not delivered.

"The promised programme and the promises of the past four years have not been fulfilled."

Yeltsin told the Congress, "People have begun to live worse." He said he held Gorbachev, who became Kremlin chief in 1985, responsible "for all of that."

Yeltsin called on the congress to decide at least one concrete social issue before adjourning and suggested it abolish all "unlawful privileges for the *nomenklatura*, yes, and in general strike this word from our lexicon."

*Nomenklatura* is a Russian word for the party and government elite who receive special privileges as a result of their or their families' positions.

He also proposed that the Congress consider making medicine and mass transit free for invalids and tens of millions of Soviets who he said were "living below the poverty line."

"Otherwise, people will not understand us," he said.

The one-time Gorbachev protege who was fired from his powerful party posts said the president, who is also Communist Party general secretary, had been given "extraordinary powers" in the political overhaul that created the Congress. He suggested Gorbachev might be tempted, like past Kremlin chiefs, to abuse power.

Gorbachev, obviously sensitive to such charges, promised the assembly when he stood unopposed for election last week that he would never take advantage of the increased powers of the presidency.

But Yeltsin said putting so much power in the hands of one man "could lead to the temptation to resolve our complex problems by means of force."

In the 17-minute address interrupted by sporadic but not particularly enthusiastic applause, Yeltsin warned: "We can again be... under a new totalitarian regime, under a new dictatorship."

Members of the party's ruling Politburo who attended the ses-

sion and sat in a special section of the hall did not clap.

Gorbachev was elected to a five-year term as Soviet president by the Congress Thursday. Yeltsin proposed that he submit to a nationwide vote of confidence each year to test popular support for his conduct in office.

The silver-haired Yeltsin, a member of the Communist Party's Central Committee, also called for revamping the membership of the party's policy-making body, claiming many on the committee have failed to fulfil their tasks.

He proposed drafting a law to regulate the functions of the ruling party, which has held a legal monopoly on power for more than 70 years, and to define how the lines of official Soviet policy are drawn.

Power "by right should belong to the people, in the form of the organ it elects, that is, the Congress," the 58-year-old Siberian declared.

Legal limits on the party's prerogatives would be a revolutionary development in Soviet poli-

tics, where for decades party officials have dominated the apparatus of government and turned legislative organs at all levels into docile rubber-stamp bodies.

Gorbachev has said his reforms were designed to separate the government and party bureaucracies, get the party out of day-to-day public affairs and let the popularly elected Congress and its standing legislature set policy and law. But Yeltsin's proposal would go considerably further by giving popularly elected lawmakers the power to limit the party's role.

Yeltsin won more votes than any other deputy elected to the Congress. Almost 90 per cent of Moscow voters cast ballots for him in March. He was ousted as party boss of the Soviet capital in November 1987 after criticising the slow pace of Gorbachev's programmes.

Denied a seat by fellow deputies in voting by the Congress for the nation's full-time legislature, the Supreme Soviet, Yeltsin pulled off a deft parliamentary



Yeltsin meets with reporters on the eve of his election to the Supreme Soviet, with Gorbachev's manoeuvre, to gain one.

Yeltsin won a place in the Supreme Soviet after another deputy sacrificed his seat on condition Yeltsin would fill it. Only a few deputies voted against the transfer. The Congress was asked Wednesday to ratify the new lineup, and 17 deputies voted against seating Yeltsin in the bicameral Supreme Soviet.

## Column

### 'Indiana Jones' film strikes gold

LOS ANGELES (R) — The film "Indiana Jones and the Last Crusade" demolished a host of box-office records in its first week in North American theatres, grossing almost \$47 million. Paramount Pictures said Tuesday the film, starring Harrison Ford and Sean Connery, raked in \$46,931,722 in the six days between its opening last Wednesday and Monday's Memorial Day holiday. That broke the seven-day record set by "Indiana Jones and the Temple of Doom," the previous instalment in the adventures of a daredevil archaeologist that began with "Raiders of the Lost Ark." "Last Crusade" also became the first film to gross over \$10 million in a single day, taking in \$11.8 million Saturday and another 10.1 million Sunday. The film, directed by Steven Spielberg and produced by George Lucas, accounted for more than half of total North American box-office receipts Friday through Monday. Paramount said.

### Student buys friends

KNOXVILLE, Tennessee (AP)

A 10-year-old student, apparently feeling he needed more friends, decided to buy them with thousands of dollars of his father's money. No one is exactly sure how much money the youngster spread around the school in his pursuit of friendship, although officials have recovered \$3,000 from classmates and their parents. "He was handing out \$5, \$10, \$20 and \$100 bills," said

Richard Scruggs, the school system's security officer. "The boy apparently got into his father's stash." The money-for-friendship enterprise was uncovered by Rita school principal J.W. Jones last week when a student asked him to break a \$10 bill. Jones asked where the student had gotten the money, and was told the student was giving it away. Jones said no disciplinary action was taken against the spendthrift youngster. Officials checked to make sure no coercion was involved in the payments, but the gifts apparently were made freely, Scruggs said. And with some success; the boy "was making friends real well," said Tom Shumpert, assistant superintendent of the Knox County School System.

### Inn lets you take it home for a price

MIDDLETOWN, Virginia (AP) — Guests at the Wayside Inn can walk away with a lot more than ashtrays and towels — for a price.

The rooms in Wayside of Virginia's six hotels have been decorated with antique furniture and art objects, about 90 per cent of which are for sale. "We've sold beds," said Judy Brown, historical curator of Wayside Properties.

"Beds are the big thing people want to take with them." Prices of the antiques vary. A small print costs about \$50, a full-size walnut bed is priced at about \$2,000, and a painting of George Washington sells for \$45,000. Rooms in the Wayside Inn in Middletown, which has been in use continuously as an inn since 1797, are decorated mostly in 18th century American style. But the Lincoln room has a portrait of President Abraham Lincoln and an 1860s Lincoln rocker, so-called because Lincoln had one like it in the White House. The wallpaper pattern in the Lincoln room matches one used at Monticello, Thomas Jefferson's home near Charlottesville. "People are having a lot of fun with this," Brown said.

"My idea was to do something so out of the ordinary you wouldn't have anything like it at home."

### Global weather (major world cities)

	MIN.	MAX.	°C °F °C °F Weather
AMSTERDAM	10	50	14 57 Cloudy
ATHENS	14	57	30 86 Clear
BAHRAIN	27	81	35 95 Clear
BANGKOK	25	75	33 91 Cloudy
Buenos Aires	13	55	19 68 Cloudy
CARDO	18	64	32 90 Clear
CHICAGO	17	52	22 85 Rain
COPENHAGEN	9	46	15 59 Cloudy
FRANKFURT	11	52	34 72 Cloudy
GENEVA	11	52	34 72 Cloudy
HONG KONG	22	72	23 78 Cloudy
ISTANBUL	14	57	24 75 Clear
LONDON	7	45	16 61 Clear
LOS ANGELES	15	58	21 70 Clear
MADRID	12	54	22 72 Cloudy
MECCA	78	82	45 115 Clear
MONTREAL	14	57	16 61 Rain
MOSCOW	10	50	24 75 Clear
NEW DELHI	32	89	44 106 Clear
NEW YORK	15	59	24 75 Clear
PARIS	97	45	23 73 Clear
ROME	11	28	51 82 Cloudy
TOKYO	15	59	22 72 Clear
VIENNA	14	57	23 75 Clear

## Uno accepts premiership nomination

TOKYO (Agencies) — Foreign Minister Sosuke Uno will become Japan's next prime minister, replacing Noboru Takeshita who was forced out by the Recruit scandal, a senior official of the ruling Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) announced.

Acting Party Secretary-General Ryutaro Hashimoto told a news conference that Uno, currently in Paris, had accepted the party's nomination to succeed Takeshita, who will step down later this week to take responsibility for his links to Japan's worst political scandal since World War II.

"We concluded that Foreign Minister Uno was our best

choice," Hashimoto said. "Foreign Minister Uno told me over the telephone from Paris that he will offer his services to the party."

He said Uno, attending a meeting of the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD), would fly home for a special congress Friday to be elected party president, a post which includes the premiership by virtue of the party's parliamentary majority.

Uno, 66, is expected to be formally elected Japan's 19th post-war prime minister in a special session of parliament later this week, after which he will name his cabinet.

It has taken more than a

month to find a successor since Takeshita said April 25 he was stepping down. The search was complicated because many party leaders were tainted by political donations or stock profits from the Recruit company, an information and publishing conglomerate accused of trying to buy favours and influence.

Uno's name emerged last weekend as Takeshita's choice, and while the party leaders fell into line, some elders and younger members urged the party to adopt more of a collective leadership.

Some opposed Uno because

he is a senior member of the party faction of former Prime Minister Yasuhiro Nakasone, during whose 1982-87 tenure most of the Recruit scandal took place.

The opposition to Uno did not cease with Wednesday's announcement, indicating he would have a difficult time if approved as prime minister.

"I am outraged by this nonsense of giving the country's highest office, which only one person can assume, in a sort of managing director of the Nakasone company," former Prime Minister Takeo Fukuda told reporters.

"I am totally amazed," said the 84-year-old Fukuda, who had lobbied to block Uno. Fukuda's name was one of many that surfaced as a possible prime minister during the long search.

Uno accepted the nomination

on the understanding that he would be supported by the LDP.

He has been nominated by

the LDP's executive committee.

Uno's supporters say he is

the best choice to lead the

country out of its political

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